FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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6 August Middle East and South Asia Review

LD061320 [Editorial Report]

Iran

Maneuvers Extended — The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced that the "Martyrdom" maneuvers will continue through 7 August and warned foreign ships and aircraft to refrain from entering the exercise area in the Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Gulf of Oman, IRNA reported, noting that Iran disclaims responsibility for "possible incidents against foreign planes and warships" that transit the region. According to Tehran radio, the first submarine built by the Guards Corps was demonstrated during the maneuvers as well as a "pilotless aircraft."

Diplomacy — President 'Ali Khamene'i received Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' who delivered a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, IRNA reported. In remarks reported by Tehran radio, Al-Shar' accused the United States and "Arab reactionaries" of wanting to expand the regional conflict into an "Arab-Persian war." The Syrian diplomat declared that he had come to Tehran for consultations about ways to defeat "U.S. conspiracies." Regarding talks with other neighbors, Turkish President Kenan Evran received a delegation led by Khamene'i's "chief adviser" Mostafa Mir-Salim, IRNA reported, noting that Mir-Salim briefed Evran on the role of "foreign forces" in the "bloody incident" in Mecca.

Khomeyni Cancels Appointments — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni canceled his appointments for 6 August, according to an announcement broadcast by Tehran radio.

Saudi Arabia

In a speech addressed to all pilgrims in Mecca and carried by SPA, King Fahd and Crown Prince 'Abdallah declared that Islamic unity can defeat those who make "desperate" attempts to impose their will by "creating dissension and provoking hatred." At the end of their review of current issues, the two leaders renewed Saudi Arabia's appeal for Iran to give a "respectful Islamic response" to various international resolutions aimed at ending the Iran-Iraq war.

A "responsible source" termed Iranian accusations regarding the recent events in Mecca "false and erroneous information," in a statement to SPA. The source stressed that "irrefutable evidence and established facts" support Saudi reportage on "acts of demogoguery" by the Iranian Government.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told the agency that the fate of four diplomats kidnapped from the Saudi Embassy in Tehran "is still not known," adding that Saudi officials have not been allowed to enter the embassy building. Meanwhile, an Iranian Embassy spokesman said that Saudi security lifted a "blockade" around Iranian missions in Riyadh and Jeddah, AFP reported 6 August.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces have suffered 4,000 casualties in the "Nasr-7" operations launched in the northwestern front near Sardasht, IRNA reported 6 August. A military communique reported by the agency announced that "two strategic peaks" above Qal'at Dizah and Dukan Dam were captured and held and that five Iraqi battalions were "totally destroyed" in the fighting. The communique pointed out that the new offensive was launched in retaliation for the Mecca "massacre."

Iraq

The Syrian pilot whose MiG-21 was shot down 28 July has been released, according to "Jordaian sources" cited by Radio Monte Carlo 6 August.

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli helicopter gunships attacked "military positions" in the Mimas Valley 6 August, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported, adding that areas south of Sidon were bombarded before the raid.

Syrian Troops Inspected — Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas visited the troops in Beirut and praised their role in "entrenching security and stability," Damascus radio reported.

Israel

In an interview with Jerusalem television, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir declared that in view of the "decreasing allure" of convening an international conference on the Middle East, he plans to hold "political talks" toward establishing the principles for "prolonged, serious, and secret negotiations" on "peaceful coexistance." On the proposal that Arabs be transferred to Jordan, Shamir stressed his belief in the concept of "Eretz Yisra'el" as a Jewish state.

According to an announcement by the state attorney's office, two people were convicted of having stolen and sold classified information on terrorist activity, IDF radio reported, noting that the previously unpublicized "treason and espionage affair" occurred "last year."

The Knesset defeated four no-confidence motions submitted by opposition parties, IDF radio also reported.

Tunisia

One of the "terrorists" involved in the 2 August bombings at tourist hotels in Susah and Munastir has been arrested, Tunis radio reported, adding that, at the suggestion of President Habib Bourguiba, the Political Bureau of the Destourian Socialist Party decided to lead a "national general mobilization" against those responsible for the "horrible crimes."

Libyan Forces Gather in North; Sudan Warned
AB052022 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1946 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Communique issued by the extraordinary meeting of the National Executive Council of the National Union for Independence and the Revolution [UNIR] on 5 August; read by secretary of state for information charged with civic training — place not given]

[Text] An extraordinary cabinet meeting, enlarged to include members of the National Consultative Council and the Executive Bureau of the UNIR, was held today, Wednesday, 5 August 1987, under the chairmanship of His Excellency El Hadj Hassein Habre, president of the Republic, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and founding chairman of the UNIR. There was only one item on the agenda: the military and political situation in the northern and eastern areas of the nation.

Seriously preoccupied with developments in the nation's extreme north and in the Chad-Sudan border region, the Chadian Government informs national and international public opinion of the following:

1. An important grouping of Libyan troops — regular forces, elements of the Islamic Legion, and mercenaries — is currently in northern Chad and moving towards positions of the FANT in the Tibesti [region].

2. Three large columns of Libyan forces, along with elements of the Islamic Legion and mercenaries, are situated at Darfour on Sudanese territory and are approaching Chadian territory dangerously. It goes without saying that the aggressive intentions of these forces derive from [words indistinct]. The movements of these troops, which herald a Libyan military offensive against Chad, reflect how little importance the Guide of Tripoli attaches to the latest OAU resolutions on the Chad-Libya conflict.

Out of its concern for preserving the friendship and good-neighborliness now existing between Chad and Sudan, the Chadian Government at the same time reminds the Sudanese authorities of the serious responsibility they have for the deteriorating situation on the Chadian-Sudanese border by allowing Libyan aggression against Chad to be launched from Sudanese territory.

In the face of the imminent danger, the FANT, militants of UNIR, and the entire Chadian people are asked to redouble their vigilance to face the situation with all their characteristic resolve, vigor,and (?courage). The Chadian people will triumph.

President Addresses Nation, World Muslims on Libya
AB052222 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Excerpts] This morning's news is dominated by the Ram Festival,which took place in our country yesterday. In Ndjamena this festival was marked by the grand prayer at the Faysal Mosque, a ceremony personally attended by the head of state. Another of the day's noteworthy events was the ceremony which took place at the Presidential Palace to present good wishes. Two speeches were made on this occasion, the first by the imam of the Faysal Mosque and the second by the Republic's president. [passage omitted]

In his address, President Hissein Habre deplored the acts of violence committed by Iranians in Mecca and affirmed that this behavior brings to mind Libyan actions in the northern part of our country. The head of state congratulated the members of the Islamic Committee, the Faysal Central Mosque, and the entire Chadian people for their great efforts and sacrifices in liberating Chadian territory. He also recalled that the Libyan aggression against our country has not ended. The enemy, the head of state said, is everywhere and must be fought. In the president's view, it is unacceptable to question what the Chadian people have achieved through bloodshed. Here is the head of state:

[Begin recording] Mr Imam, members of the Islamic Committee and the Committee of the Ndajamena Faysal Central Mosque: While expressing my gratitude to the imam for the good wishes he has just addressed to me and to the Muslims in Chad and around the world,on your behalf, I would in turn like to present my wishes of good health, happiness, and long life to the imam himself and to his family, to the members of the Islamic Committee and the Faysal Central Mosque Committee, and to your dear families. I would also like to present my wishes of good health, happiness, and progress to all Chadian Muslims, to all Chadians, and to the international Muslim community.

We are living in troubled times, a particularly agonizing period for both Chadian Muslims and Muslims throughout the world. According to the holy Koran and the teachings of our prophet, Muhammad, Muslims should live in solidarity, be united, and help and love one another. However, we are witnessing on earth serious ravages, such as the Iran-Iraq war, in which Muslims are killing one another and Muslim blood is being shed daily. We know about the tragic situation in Lebanon, as well as that of the Palestinians. But here in Chad, we too, both Muslim and Christian Chadians, have now been experiencing this type of tragedy for nearly a generation. We deplore the recent serious events that occurred in the holy land, specifically in Mecca, and that once again has led to the loss of much Muslim blood. We are very concerned by recent developments.

Some members of the Muslim community, like the Iranians, have dared to soil God's house, even shedding blood inside the Ka'bah Mosque in venerable Mecca. How can a sincere Muslim not ask some serious questions? We are deeply concerned when a group of Muslims, such as these Iranians, dares to disrupt the pilgrimage of many Muslims from around the world to God's house. Political difficulties must be separated from issues of Muslim faith, especially during the pilgrimage season. What the Iranians have been doing reminds us of what the Libyans, who also claim to be Muslims, have done in our country. We in Chad are confronted in the same manner with serious problems resulting from Libyan aggression against our country and against our people. I would like to take the opportunity of this holy day to remind Muslims and Chadians that Libya's aggression has not yet ended. Thanks to God, to the patriotism of Chadians, and to our sacrifices, especially those made by our Armed Forces, we have recovered most of our national territory. We are grateful to

our great and almighty God for helping us to make these efforts. I would also like to congratulate the imam, the members of the Islamic Committee, those of the Faysal Central Mosque Committee, and our entire people for their considerable efforts, patriotism, and material, moral, and financial sacrifices to liberate their territory and their own freedom and dignity. We must not only consolidate these achievements; we must also still free the remainder of our territory — the Aozou region. Furthermore, we must realize that the enemy is currently preparing to launch fresh offensives and acts of aggression against our positions in the north. The enemy is also preparing to attack us from the Darfour region in Sudan.

Therefore, if the Chadian people wish to preserve their freedom and dignity, they must continue to make concerted efforts. I believe that the distance not yet covered to totally liberate our territory and repulse free aggression is less than what we have already covered. Since the greater part of our sacrifice has already been made, we must, therefore, make the final sacrifices and efforts to regain our total freedom and restore lasting peace in Chad.

The enemy is not only preparing to openly attack us with arms, but also continues to increase its military efforts. We must additionally realize that the enemy is present everywhere inside Chad [words indistinct] to bring destabilizing elements into the country to corrupt people, to introduce deadly weapons through terrorists to destroy factories, our [words indistinct] major public buildings, and installations. We must be vigilant in order to counter the enemy not only on the military front, but also on the (?civil) front.

Libya has often in the past employed Africans against their own fatherlands, and particularly the Chadians against their own homeland. Libya has always exploited other people's ambitions — those seeking power by all means, those who want to become rich — Libya has always exploited them as we saw with the colonialists, regionalists, and those defending tribalism. Libya continues to exploit the Chadians' weaknesses.

The Government of the Third Republic and the Chadian people, who have suffered so much in the past, will not allow the agitators paid by external forces to act as they wish. The government is determined to counter their actions and to resist them mercilessly. We are determined to crush, and if necessary, shed the blood of those who seek to question the Third Republic's achievements. We have paid very dearly for our freedom and dignity, and we will never allow anyone to question what we have achieved through bloodshed. The government is determined to assume its responsibility, and it will crush the enemies of Chad, the enemies of freedom, and those of our dignity. The Chadian people must eliminate them whether they are inside or outside the country. We cannot build schools, roads, hospitals, or dispensaries; we cannot farm on the land of our ancestors; we cannot make the Chadian people happy if there is no peace, stability, or unity. The government will continue to strive toward strengthening national unity. The national reconciliation policy will be pursued and promoted, but we cannot accept the dissolution of the UNIR, the Army, or the Fundamental Act. [Words indistinct] we want to come and divide Chad into bits and pieces with you. This is how some of our brothers want to rebuild Chad.

What is reconciliation? Reconciliation means unity [words indistinct], and discipline to build Chad and help it progress. But if they want to destroy the Army and all that serves to unite Chad, then, in fact, they wish to destroy the Army so that our country can again be invaded by another nation. Therefore [words indistinct].

Honorable imam and members of the Islamic Committee and the Ndjamena Central Mosque, I follow with great interest the tremendous efforts you have made toward the unity of the Chadian sons, social peace, and cohesion among our people. I strongly support you in this undertaking. Be convinced that the Government of the Third Republic and I personally will do our best to facilitate your patriotic efforts. We will assist you as much as possible. I would like to ask you to continue in this direction, because no one is more powerful, richer, or stronger than God. Once again, on the occasion of this day of the Ram Festival, I wish the Chadian people and our country the achievement of national unity, stability, and their consolidation. May we, by the grace of God and as soon as possible, attain a situation that will permit us to devote all our energy to Chad's economic, social, and cultural development. This will make it possible for our people to enjoy a better standard of living. In fact, we trust the state and the people, for our country is full of wealth and our people are full of (?energy). By the grace of God, we will reach a stage where the gates of progress and (?happiness) will be opened to us. [end recording]

PLO's Hani al-Hasan Confers With Usamah al-Baz

JN041658 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Aug 87

[Text] Last night in Cairo, Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan met with Dr Usamah al-Baz, the Egyptian president's adviser for political affairs. Following the meeting, Hani al-Hasan said that his talks with Dr al-Baz came in light of recent meetings between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and PLO leader Brother Yasir 'Arafat in Addis Ababa. He described the talks as very positive and expressed optimism regarding the eagerness of Egypt and the PLO to maintain strong and constructive relations.

AL-AKHBAR Denounces Mecca Incidents, Iran's Rulers

NC060549 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 Aug (MENA) — In their Thursday issues, the Cairo newspapers continue to denounce the shocking incidents that took place in the square of the Holy Mosque in Mecca last Friday, describing them as a "black spot" in the history of that group of self-styled ayatollahs led by a [word indistinct] leader.

Al-Akhbar calls on the leaders of the Islamic world to respond without delay to President Husni Mubarak's urgent request to convene an Islamic summit so that they may voice their opinions about the incidents, whose aim was to attack the Islamic religion.

The paper adds that the leaders' main tasks must include the exertion of every possible effort to enlighten the innocent citizens of Iran about the reality of our Islamic religion, which advocates peace and fraternity among its followers and which signifies every beautiful and honest meaning in life. The paper notes that time will reveal that the rulers of Iran have lost their ability to even differentiate between true Islam and the false methods they use to control the minds of their people, most of whom are still victims of ignorance and illiteracy.

Al-Akhbar concludes its commentary by saying that the mere thought that the Iranian rulers sought by their mean conspiracy to seize the holy Ka'bah is sufficient evidence to determine that those who presently rule Iran are of unsound mind. [passage omitted]

Planning Minister Leaves for Visit to FRG

NC060848 Cairo MENA in English 0715 GMT 6 AUG 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug. 6 (MENA) — Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, left here early this morning for Munich for a few days visit to West Germany.

Dr. al-Janzuri will confer tomorrow with the West German minister of economic cooperation on the implementation of a number of projects agreed upon by the two countries.

Dr. al-Janzuri will also meet with a number of German investors and businessmen to discuss the possibility of contributing to a number of projects of the new Egyptian five-year plan.

King Hassan Telephones Saudi King on Mecca Events

LD021741 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] King Hassan II, who is extremely preoccupied with the regrettable incidents in Mecca and who is following the situation closely, yesterday evening spoke on the telephone with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques. He also sent King Fahd a cable following the events caused by the Iranians the day before yesterday in Mecca, in which he expressed Morocco's solidarity with the Saudi Arabian Kingdom in all efforts it undertakes to defending its stability and security.

As soon as King Hassan II, the prince of the faithful, learned of the events from the day before yesterday in Mecca, he inquired about the situation and issued his sublime instructions to the Moroccan authorities to keep in touch with Saudi officials on following developments there.

The king also acquainted himself with the conditions of Morocco's pilgrims, who are safe and sound.

The Moroccan radio mission now in Mecca has informed us that Moroccan pilgrims, thanks be to God, are in good health and that following the official announcement on the Friday [31 July] clashes in Mecca, it has been verified that no Moroccan pilgrim was a victim.

Receives Message From Fahd

LD051330 Rabat MAP in English 1221 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Rabat, Aug 5 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco sent a congratulation message to President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia on the occasion of his 84th birthday.

The Moroccan monarch expressed feelings of joy and wished President Bourguiba good health and happiness while "praying the Almighty to renew to event for the Tunisian people in quietude, progress. prosperity and development under your clearsighted leadership". [sentence as received]

King Hassan also hailed the efforts of the Tunisian president "in serving Tunisia" and in "favor of the Grand Maghreb for serenity, peace, cooperation and understanding". The sovereign highlighted the brotherly relations and the solidarity and cooperation ties linking the two peoples of Tunisia and Morocco.

King Hassan II received, on the other hand, a message from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz following a message King Hassan had addressed to the Saudi sovereign in the aftermath of the incidents triggered last Friday in Mecca by some Iranian pilgrims.

King Fahd thanked the Moroccan monarch for "the brotherly and sincere feelings you expressed at the deplorable incidents. It is a pleasure to reaffirm to Your Majesty that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ... mobilizes all its potentialities to the service of pilgrims and guarantees their security against any attempt aiming at disturbing their quietude".

King Fahd also reassured the Moroccan sovereign about the conditions of the pilgrims who are performing their rites "in security and quietude" greatly helped by the specialized organisms of Saudi Arabia.

Delegation Returns Following Talks in Tunisia

LD051309 Rabat MAP in English 1227 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Rabat, Aug 5 (MAP) — Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed returned home Tuesday afternoon coming from Monastir, at the end of an official visit to Tunisia at the invitation of President Habib Bourguiba. Prince Sidi Mohamed was greeted upon arrival at the Rabat airport by Prince Moulay Rachid.

Were also present to greet the crown prince Prime Minister Azzeddine Laraki, Minister of the Interior and of Information Driss Basri, Minister of Transports Mohamed Bouamoud, advisers to King Hassan II Ahmed Reda Guedira and Ahmed Bensouda and senior military and civil officials.

Upon leaving Tunisia's airspace, Prince Sidi Mohamed sent a cable to President Bourguiba thanking him for the warm welcome he was met with and expressing happiness at the historically solid and continuously developing relations between the two countries. Prince Sidi Mohamed had attended Sunday and Monday in Monastir, the festivities celebrating President Bourguiba's 84th birthday. He also held three rounds of talks with the Tunisian president.

Parallel to Prince Sidi Mohamed's official visit, the Moroccan delegation accompanying him held a working session with a Tunisian delegation led by Premier Rachid Sfar. Talks centered on bilateral relations and the situation in the region. The Moroccan delegation comprised Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali, Minister of Finance Mohamed Berrada and Ambassador to Tunisia Abbes el Fassi.

UAE Petroleum Minister Departs After Meeting

LD032014 Rabat MAP in English 1225 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Rabat, Aug 3 (MAP) — United Arab Emirates Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah Sunday [2 August] left Morocco after having participated in the works of the ministerial follow up committee of the Council of the Arab Organization of Mineral Resources "AOMR". In a statement he made before departure, Al-'Utaybah said the committee had carefully studied all the questions on its agenda and adopted a series of propositions which will be submitted to the upcoming meeting of "AOMR"'s ministerial council slated for next October in Rabat.

AOMR's follow up committee began its meetings on July 23 in Rabat under the chairmanship of Al-'Utaybah, whose country, U.A.E., is the organization's acting chairman. The committee also comprises Moroccan Minister of Energy and Mining Mohamed Fettah and AOMR's secretary general Ahmed Alaoui M'hamdi.

Bourguiba Briefed on Hotel Bombing Investigation
LD051414 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba this morning held a working session with Rachid Sfar, prime minister; Zine Labidine Ben Ali, minister of state for interior; Amor Chedli, minister director of the presidential office; and Mansour Skhirri, minister of equipment, housing, and transport.

Following this session, Rachid Sfar stated that he presented the head of state and party chairman a report on the meeting held by the party's Political Bureau in Monastir yesterday afternoon. During the meeting, Rachid Sfar listened to a report from the party's assistant secretary general and minister of state for interior on the criminal acts committed in some hotels. Preliminary investigations by the responsible departments have led to the arrest of one of the terrorists involved in these horrible crimes within 48 hours of their commission.

The Political Bureau was also informed of security measures adopted for tightening control in the various areas. [passage omitted]

The Political Bureau, in compliance with the appeal of the party chairman — the supreme combatant — and the call of duty, has decided on a number of measures to mobilize Tunisia's men and women to face these criminal acts. The party, as its founder is accustomed, will lead this national general mobilization against the criminals.

The Political Bureau was also informed of consultations and contacts recently held at various levels among officials in the Arab Maghreb region. The Political Bureau praised the initiatives undertaken by the supreme combatant in the context of its clear policy's firm bases and its attachment to the objective principles. These principles can provide the Arab Maghreb with the necessary conditions to build on sound and strong bases. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Meets With Moroccan Delegation
LD041600 Rabat MAP in English 1223 GMT 4 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Skanes (Tunisia), Aug 4 (MAP) — [passage omitted] On the fringes of their official visit, the Moroccan delegation accompanying Prince Sidi Mohamed held a working session Monday with a Tunisian ministerial delegation led by Premier Rachid Sfar.

After this meeting, Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali told the media that bilateral questions and means of further developing them, as well as the situation in the region were at the center of talks. He said dialogue with "our Tunisian brothers" constituted a positive initiative "to consolidate the idea of the grand Arab Maghreb".

The Moroccan delegation included Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali, Minister of Finance Mohamed Berrada and Ambassador to Tunisia Abbes el Fassi.

KUWAIT

Iranian Charge Handed Memo on Embassy Situation

LD061132 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1056 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Aug (KUNA) — An official source at the Foreign Ministry told KUNA that Mr Mohammad Reza Baqeri, the Iranian charge d'affaires, has been summoned to the Foreign Ministry. There he met Mr Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, and Mr Khalid al-Jar Allah, director of GCC administration affairs. He was handed a memo related to the situation in the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran and Kuwait's request to the Iranian authorities for the return of normalcy to the embassy, in line with international norms and charters which govern diplomatic relations between both countries.

OMAN

Sultan Receives Khamene'i Envoy, Message

JN051344 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received His Excellency Dr 'Ali Shams Ardekali, the Iranian president's envoy, and his accompanying delegation in his office today. The Iranian envoy conveyed to his majesty a written message from His Excellency Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and His Excellency Major General 'Ali ibn Majid al-Ma'mari, chief of the the palace office, attended the meeting.

SAUDI ARABIA

King, Crown Prince Speech Delivered to Pilgrims

LD051239 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0935 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Excerpts] [no dateline as received] The custodian of the two holy mosques and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, reviewed with the pilgrims to the holy house of God some of the worries, affairs, and agonies of the two Arab and Islamic nations.

They stressed in the annual speech to the guests of God, which was delivered by His Excellency 'Ali al-Sha'ir, minister of information, via the information media and the radio and television, that there is no deliverance from sedition except through returning to the teachings of the book of God and strengthening the soul with faith and certainty, and standing as one against the enemies and protecting the future generations from extremism and deviation. [passage omitted]

Here is the text of the speech: In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Behold! We gave the site of the sacred house to Abraham, saying: Associate not anything with me; and sanctify my house for those who circumambulate it, or stand up, or bow, or prostrate themselves therein in prayer.

Proclaim the pilgrimage among men: They will come to thee on foot and mounted on every kind of camel, lean on account of journeys through deep and distant mountain highways. Thanks be to God who controls what is in heaven and what is on earth. He is also to be thanked in the day of judgment and He is wise and omniscent. Peace and blessings be upon the seal of the prophets our master Muhammad and upon all his family and companions.

Honorable brothers, pilgrims to the holy house of God, the peace and mercy of God and his blessings be upon you. The merciful God has summoned you, and you have responded obediently, hoping to gain his forgiveness and favor. It is because the pilgrimage is embedded in your hearts that you rushed to perform it in your unstitched garments hoping to receive God's mercy. Behold, God greeted you when you arrived here and will protect you when you return safely to your homelands. He accepted your pilgrimage, He thanked you for your endeavor, and He forgave your sins and gave you what you desired.

Brothers in God, these are blessed days which we have lived together in the courtyard of the old house and on the soil of the revelation and fountain of righteousness and light. We live them as one heart and one soul today, in front of God as equals, forgoing our ancestries, our titles, the color of our skin, racial origins, language, along this plane as one heart that looks up to God in submission, God who has no associates to share his kingdom. It is to God that we direct our thanks, and to Him we shall return locked in the faith of Islam. It is He who brings our hearts together through his book. Our road is lit by the teachings of the much honored prophet. Through the great Islamic bonds and on the basis of our firm fraternal ties and at such a meeting which is a meeting of the faith that takes place once every year, we address this sincere and honest speech to you in which we review the affairs and worries of our nation and the fateful issues that have arisen during our current year and the events and new developments. We have to add all of them to the record of account with our souls and conscience.

Perhaps we find in this blessed meeting an opportunity which gives us the pleasure of meeting brother leaders and members of Islamic delegations and getting acquainted through them with their views and consulting with them about pressing or future matters, praying to God almighty to direct our steps and help us to do whatever benefits our nation, raises its standing, and serves its causes.

Dear pilgrims, we will not be adding anything to what you already know and are aware of some situations in our Islamic nation and Arab countries. However, we notice that the dangers are increasing around us today and calamities are worsening among ouselves; and there is not one glimmer of hope that might guide our steps or illuminate the road that might lead us to what we aspire to and want.

We have said for several years, and we come back today to repeat it, that the enemies of Islam find their opportunity in our divisions and discord in our ideological and political conflicts. Therefore they step up their efforts to break our will, tear our solidarity apart, and weaken our strength. All this because they are absolutely certain that in our unity there is a strength which they

dread and because our united stand and ranks will foil their conspiracies and defeat them. That is why we see them making desperate efforts to reach their goals, sometimes by creating dissension and provoking hatred, treachery, and division so that when they secure their way and weaken every team they can deal their blows and organize their attacks, killing, plundering, looting, and causing havoc in the land. At other times we see them, as is the case today, resorting to other forms of warfare directed at the generations, which are the pillar of the future, by exporting their poison and smuggling their drugs to the Islamic and Arab countries in a vile attempt to paralyze our human energies and intellectual capabilities through the youth of our nation, our most valuable asset.

Dear brothers, we are more than aware of the perils, schemes, and destruction facing us as exemplified by what is going on today in our countries and what is affecting our destinies. The examples, as you know, are numerous and bitter.

We have the tragedy of the Palestinian people, a story which started 40 years ago. But its episodes continue and its events persist. In occupied Palestine, on Lebanese soil, and the Golan Heights lives an ancient Arab people whose land has been usurped by the enemy, whose homes have been taken away, whose blood has been spilled, whose children have emigrated, and whose people have been chased, persecuted, and banished at all levels until Palestine was lost and Jerusalem occupied and until the Al-Aqsa mosque was wrested from our hands by the enemy who at times sets it ablaze and at other times destroys its surroundings in search of Solomon's treasures. As a result, the children of Palestine have been scattered across the Arab world as refugees whose waves undulateand whose screams resound. Our pain and theirs are increasing, while our enemy day after day is becoming more violent and virulent. Whenever efforts made by loyal Arab leaders and Palestinians offer a glimmer of hope that we all expect, the enemy moves in his turn to thwart these efforts, taking advantage of the division and differences in our political paths and ideological stands.

Dear brothers, this is happening with our full knowledge, but we are still involved in conflicts and fighting, and it is destroying us and our resources. I swear by God that this is an obvious misfortune. Dear brothers, we, your brothers in the Kingdom, take a firm standpoint toward our Palestinian brothers which we have announced and which we affirm today and everyday. This standpoint is based on our unshakable conviction in the legitimacy of their cause and on our permanent follow-up of its stages and course. It is a standpoint which is expressed by persevering through all our resources in demanding the return of the Palestinians to their homeland and the establishment of their own state on their land and in enabling them to have the right to self-determination comparable with the view of the PLO with its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We or you do not see any alternative to this just claim for the return of these destitute people and the restoration of their usurped rights.

Our second tragedy, O dear brothers, is the disaster of fraternal Lebanon, a tragedy which has completed its 12th year, after fires have eliminated the light that was illuminating its surroundings and wars have destroyed all that was achieved by the brave Lebanese people on its mountains, in its valleys, and shores in civilization, architecture, science, and technology.

It is a war that started and continued without any reason we can see, except that the enemy who is lying in wait on its borders wishes to perpetrate, as we said, sedition to destroy the security, prosperity, and peace under which religions were coexisting on Lebanese soil. This he could not stand atop to see, so he went on to arouse bitter feelings of hated in Lebanon's sons and incite one faction against another, even brother against brother, in the most vicious conspiracy in history which is being written with the blood of young men. Whenever the good-doers put out the fire of sedition in one place, the enemy rushes to light it in a new place to weaken their will and determination. The human losses multiply and they are a greater loss than any properties or money. We have for a long time endeavored and appealed to the brothers to save Lebanon. We have made continuous efforts from the first day of this Lebanese Arab tragedy to put an end to the fighting and encourage the laying down of arms. We have tried to make the aware mind prevail over emotional reaction, and the Arab states have held more than one summit to achieve this aim.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has not spared any efforts in continuing, through various means and with all factions on equal terms, its human initiatives for the sons of the Lebanese people in the hope of lessening their pain and sharing with them their tragedy. However, we have never lost our hope for a Lebanese awakening which we are awaiting and which is necessary for protecting the unity of Lebanon and the cohesion of its people. We hope to find a formula for Lebanese harmony acceptable to all which allows Lebanon to recover its security, stability, and prosperity and return to the Arab nation strong, stable, and an oasis of beauty,as well as a source for everything good and honorable.

We have today complete faith in what is being achieved by the Lebanese leadership in cooperation with the aware national leaders and in fraternity and solidarity with their brothers. We affirm here, today, our stand beside Lebanon until it willingly returns to God as we wish. Brothers, God's guests, we feel as you do the deep wounds in our hearts and the suffering and anxiety engraved on our hearts. But the most bleeding and painful of these persists between two respectful Muslim neighboring peoples and has for 7 years. This, our third tragedy, is the Iraqi-Iranian war. God alone knows the efforts we have exerted in cooperation with our loyal brothers to bring this war to a halt. It has depleted the cream of the men and youth in our two brotherly countries, a number which is approximately equal to the number of those who stood on Mount 'Arafat yesterday. We all know, brothers, that sisterly Iraq has repeatedly responded to the good offices of good-doers. A few days ago we heard Iraq announce its agreement to the UN Security Council resolution calling for an end to the war. It has agreed to other proposals adopted by Islamic and Arab summits in this connection. Our hope is still strong for a respectful Islamic response from Iran, a response to an appeal which we are renewing today, with you from this holy place, hoping that the Iranian Government will listen to God's almighty words when He says: The believers are but a single brotherhood, so make peace and reconciliation between your two contending brothers; and fear God, that you may receive mercy.

God Almighty also says, You who believe, enter into Islam whole-heartedly and follow not the footsteps of the evil one. For he is to you an avowed enemy.

Believers, pilgrims to God's house, on the other hand, on a land dear to us all — a land whose soil is being stained with a pure blood — our brothers in Afghanistan are waging a holy war for God's sake. Men who are honoring what they have promised God, they believe in their God and add to their faith and guidance and strengthen their belief as they embark on defending their homeland and conviction with their souls and with everything they possess. To those fighting heroes who are positioned in the valleys and mountains, concentrated in rivers and bushes, to the heroic and brave Afghan people, to every hero among their sons, whether live or martyred, we extend our greetings of pride, esteem, and respect. We pray to God. Furthermore, we have to continue our dutiful constant assistance and continuous support to help them recapture their homeland and self-determination as they deem fit for their religion and security. Assuredly God will help him who helps himself; surely, God is all-powerful and almighty.

Dear and honored ones, these are some of our worries, affairs, and pains, and they are all trials. They are as somber as the pitch darkness of the night. We cannot eliminate them, as the prophet of God — peace and blessings of God be upon him — directed us, except through our return to the book of God. Therefore, let us hasten and fortify our souls with conviction, and certitude; let us stand as one man in the face of the enemies; let us protect our generations and safeguard them against extremism and deviation. God has appointed us as their trustees. Furthermore, they are the builders of the future and they are its foundation. So let us pray to God to deliver us from our distress and relieve us of our worries and direct our steps to the right path.

Guests of God, once again we welcome you and bless your pilgrimage. We congratulate you and congratulate our brothers on the advent of the blessed 'Id al-Adha. We thank God a great deal because He bestowed on us the honor of serving the two holy mosques and entrusted us with the task of looking after your comfort and facilitating your task of carrying out your religious duties and rites. We thank Him for enabling us to allocate funds for reconstructing the holy mosque in Mecca and the holy mosque of the prophet — the peace and blessings of God be upon him — we thank Him for His abundant gifts and his endless help and assistance to enable us to support our brothers and make new friends. We pay no attention to the rancor of the hate mongers or the campaigns of the revenge seekers as long as we uphold God's book in word and deed and as long as we implement God's shari'ah and refrain from venial sins and hasten to do good and endeavor as much possible to bring about reconciliation and reform and ward off bad deeds with good deeds. We must not be complacent about defending our homelands and sacred shrines — if need be, with our lives and wealth. Our best guide is to be found in the holy verses from the Koran: For those who fear God, He prepares a way out. He provides for him from sources never imaginable. If someone puts his trust in God, God is sufficient for him, for God will surely accomplish his purpose. Truly for all things God has appointed a due proportion.

Royal Palace Reception in Mina Televised

LD051654 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1106 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz, held at the royal palace in Mina before noon today the grand annual reception which he is accustomed to hosting on this day every year. At this reception, the custodian of the two holy mosques received Islamic figures who have come to perform the pilgrimage, leaders of the pilgrim delegations, and guests of the Kingdom — pilgrims, Muslim ulema, as well as ambassadors of Arab and Islamic states. Among the most distinguished guests who attended the reception were His Majesty the Sultan of Brunei Hassanal Bolkiah; His Excellency Idris Al-Banna, vice chairman of the Presidential Council of Sudan; His Excellency Sayf Sharif Hamad, prime minister of Zanzibar; Shaykh Jabir al-'Abdallah al-Jabir al-Sabah, governor of the State of Al-Ahmadi in Kuwait; and Field-Marshal 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. The reception was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, 2d deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn Muhammad ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; His Royal Highness Prince Mut'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of public works and housing; His Royal Highness Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, interior minister; His Royal Highness Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Holy Mecca; princes; ulema; and ministers. The reception began with a Koran recital. Then the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, delivered a brief speech in which he welcomed the leaders and members of the Islamic delegations and the pilgrims and congratulated them as well as all Muslims throughout the world on the blessed 'Id al-Adha, praying to Almighty God for success and support to ensure the lofty status of all Muslims. After that His Excellency 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi, minister of hajj and Awqaf, delivered a speech on this occasion. He was followed by His Excellency Dr 'Abdallah 'Umar Nasif, secretary general of the Islamic World League, who made a speech. Then His Excellency Dr Mohammed Hilali, minister of education in the Kingdom of Morocco, made a speech on behalf of the Islamic delegations at the end of the annual grand Islamic reception. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's television will have the pleasure of transmitting on both channels the proceedings of this grand reception some time later today.

King Fahd's Banquet Speech

LD051908 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1635 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Speech by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz given at a banquet in honor of the leaders of the hajj delegations held on 5 August at the royal palace in Mina — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, may prayers and God's peace be upon the most honorable messenger and prophet, our master and prophet, Muhammad, and prayers and God's mercy be upon him.

Brother pilgrims, I congratulate you twice, for the conclusion of the rites of pilgrimage and for the blessed 'Id al-Adha. I wish you a perfect conclusion to your pilgrimage crowned with comfort and security in this faithful country.

We meet every year on these days. It is an amicable, fraternal, and united meeting within the framework of the tolerant Islamic faith. The Islamic faith has revealed to all Muslims the ways of good and blessings in the affairs of their religion and life. The Islamic faith has pointed out the ways of good and evil. The Islamic faith is a comprehensive faith which has organized the life of the Islamic society within a correct, clear, and unambiguous framework. The Islamic faith has clearly specified that all Muslims are brothers and should love each other, be amicable to each other, secure with each other, and at ease with each other. Every Muslim should help every Muslim. The Islamic faith does not discriminate between those who are close and those who are far, or between races. That is why the Islamic faith is a comprehensive faith sent by God Almighty through his prophet Muhammad, God's prayers and peace be upon him. The messenger of God has given it to the whole world. We all know the situation of the Arabs before God gave us, as Arabs, and sent us an Arab prophet and explained the truth clearly to us. We all know the difficulties to which God's messenger — God's prayers and peace be upon him — was exposed for the sake of explaining the faith and consolidating it within the correct framework. There is no doubt that God Almighty was able to facilitate all the matters for his messenger, but God's wish was to prove that the Islamic faith is struggle, love, patience, solidarity, and fraternity.

I do not think that there is any Muslim who does not understand the advantages of the Islamic faith, its call for superior ethics, and its high standard of ethics and understanding for Muslims. Therefore we have a great duty in this world, which is undoubtedly a mortal world, and which will return to God Almighty. Those who do good, will do themselves good, and those who misbehave, will face the consequences.

God has made pilgrimage a source of advantages for Muslims so they could meet and share solidarity, affection, and friendship. He has made a special mention of it in holy verses because members of the Islamic community should enjoy peace, tranquillity, stability, and affection during pilgrimage.

This is our Muslim belief, of which we are proud, which God Almighty bestowed upon us by making Muhammed — may God's peace be upon him — the seal of the prophets and messengers. I would like to see, with God's help, these gatherings continue among Muslims in these pure lands. I also would like them to enjoy comfort, stability, and tranquillity which are the main bases of the true rules of Islam.

Therefore I do not wish to prolong this speech, because some of those who are now in front of me are more eloquent than I, and they know matters better than I do. On this basis, I say again, welcome to you who have come as guests to God's holy house and to his prophet's mosque. I pray that God grant you health and well-being. At the same time I hope that, in our capacity as officials in this country, we will be successful in providing all the services we can to the pilgrims, and this is our first duty. I am not claiming that everything we want to accomplish in this sacred country, either in Mecca or Medina, Mina or 'Arafat, has been accomplished according to our wishes, but I believe that this is a good start. Those who saw these holy places some 10 years ago and who see them now, I believe, will distinguish the progress achieved in the pilgrims' comfort. This is one of our first duties in this sacred country.

Finally, welcome to you all. I wish you success wherever you go.

Now I give other brothers the opportunity to speak, and I reiterate my deep gratitude for your presence on this day. May God preserve you in good health and thanks to you.

Official Source Denies Aiding Iran Arms Purchase

LD060736 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0707 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Aug (SPA) — An official source, speaking to SPA, has denied what *The Guardian* paper, published yesterday, 5 August 1987, reported, citing its correspondent in occupied Jerusalem as saying that in 1985 Saudi Arabia organized the purchase of military equipment for Iran costing millions of dollars so that the Iranians would not cause disturbances during that year's pilgrimage in holy Mecca.

The source said that this report is fabricated by the paper and is categorically untrue.

Iranian Charges on Mecca Incident Denied

LD051634 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Mina, 5 Aug (SPA) — Replying to a question from SPA on the statements carried daily by the Iranian media and containing accusations and threats against the Kingdom by some people known for their psychological sickness and bitter language, a responsible source made the following statement. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has reported to the Muslims and to all the countries of the world, with all credibility, impartiality, and clarity, some of the facts it has on the chaotic and regrettable incidents planned by the Iranian regime. The incidents were carried out by some Iranian pilgrims by force and under duress by the leadership of those who have been entrusted by Iran with undertaking such acts in the past and in the present on the holy lands during the pilgrimage seasons.

The source added: Thus we have called upon God, who has purified his house and protected it, as a witness. We have also called upon the entire world as a witness to the offenses they committed and the sanctities they violated. Then we left the judgment on these repeated crimes to the conscience of the Muslims and the just people of the world. A resounding judgment was returned in the form of Islamic-Arab international indignation manifested by scores of thousands of telephone calls, telegrams, and statements received by the government of the Kingdom. They are still coming from leaders, presidents of the Islamic and Arab nation and its ulema, imams, institutions, and Islamic pulpits. The indignation was reflected in the information media of the Islamic and Arab states quite honestly and truthfully against the acts of the criminals outside the sacred house of God in a sacred country during a holy month.

The responsible source added: The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stresses the truth of every word it releases through its written and audio-visual information media concerning the acts of demagoguery committed by the Iranian Government such as attempted sabotage in the last few years and acts of agitation and murder of peaceful citizens and terrifying the worshippers and pilgrims in Mecca. The source categorically denies the Iranian charges as false and erroneous information.

They said that the Kingdom refuses to hand over the Iranian bodies, whereas in actual fact it is they who had been slow in receiving and identifying the bodies despite the persistent and constant request from the Saudi health authorities right up to the time of the arrival of the means of transport. They received the first batch yesterday.

Then they said that the Saudi security authorities clashed with them and hindered their march and closed all roads to it. Here we declared that the security forces intervened implementing orders following the clash between Iranian demonstrators and citizens and pilgrims, who together with their families, were unable to move and who remained for long hours in the sun. The Iranians used megaphones to direct the demonstrators and noisy crowds with their banners, pictures, and effigies and chanted slogans into the Holy Mosque where no banner or effigy has ever entered since the time of the prophet who destroyed the idols around the Ka'ba when he entered Mecca.

The source concluded the statement saying: Therefore the Kingdom rises above the campaign of accusations, supported by irrefutable evidence and established facts.

In the end we only have to quote the verse from the holy Koran which says: "Men said to them: 'A great army is gathering against you,' and frightened them; but it only increased their faith. They said: 'For us God suffices, and He is the best disposer of affairs.'"

Health Ministry Describes Care for Injured Pilgrims

LD051727 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1620 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Mina, 5 Aug (SPA) — An official Health Ministry source made the following statement:

Regarding statements by the Iranian UN permanent delegation that the Saudi authorities have killed injured Iranians in their hospitals so that it will appear that Iranians alone were involved in the incidents, the Health Ministry stresses that the Saudi Red Crescent, Health Ministry hospitals, and all Health Ministry sectors, from the first moments of the sad incident, rushed to exert their utmost efforts and give the necessary first aid to all the wounded. This aid was given irrespective of their nationality, stemming from the Islamic ethics and values, in adherence with the internationally recognized medical norms, and in implementation of the firm directives of the custodian the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

A total of 303 injured Iranians were admitted to Health Ministry hospitals in the holy Mecca region, where they immediately received excellent medical treatment.

The ministry was in constant contact with the Iranian medical mission officials, who supervised their situations. In addition to this, the Health Ministry responded to the demands of the Iranian medical team by supplying it with all urgently required medicine and medical equipment.

Moreover, the ministry took the necessary measures to assist those who were able to continue their pilgrimage. The Health Ministry transported 32 injured Iranians to Mount 'Arafat by convoy and under qualified and full medical supervision. They completed their pilgrimage and rites in the proper way, and then left the hospital on the morning of the first day of 'Id al-Adha. Among the 303 injured Iranians, 12 of them have remained in intensive care, and they are all under supervision and care.

While the Health Ministry states these facts, it voices its deep regret over the propagation of lies and fabrications by an Iranian envoy to a respected international organization. He fully knows that the facts, possessed by medical officials of his country's mission to the pilgrimage, will disprove his accusations and refute his lies.

Fate of Officials Abducted in Tehran 'Not Known'

LD060840 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0735 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Aug (SPA) — A spokesman at the Foreign Ministry told the Saudi news agency in the course of answering questions on the details of the assault on the Saudi Embassy in Tehran and setting its contents on fire, that the fate of the four Saudi officials who were abducted in the planned assault by the Iranian regime is still not known.

The spokesman said that despite all attempts, embassy officials have not been allowed until now to enter the embassy.

Algeria's Bendjedid Sends Message to King Fahd

LD060258 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Jeddah, 5 Aug (SPA) — His Excellency Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, disapproves of the demagogic acts staged by the Iranian regime through a group of Iranian pilgrims. His excellency said in a message to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, that the regrettable incidents that resulted in hundreds of victims among the pilgrims of God's holy house arouse indignation and disapproval in every faithful soul.

His excellency the Algerian president expressed his full confidence in [King Fahd's] dealing with this hardship in a way that secures the pilgrims' tranquillity and allows them to worship in the best way.

Here follows the text of the message: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God protect him, sovereign of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The painful and regrettable incidents that occurred in holy Mecca that resulted in the deaths of hundreds of pilgrims in God's holy house arouse indignation in every faithful soul. While we share interest and concern about

this critical incident, we are totally confident that you will deal with this hardship in a way that secures the pilgrims' tranquillity to worship in the best way, thanks to your wisdom and foresight.

We pray God Almighty will guide you for the good of the Kingdom and Muslims. Your brother, Chadli Bendjedid.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Zayid Receives Message From Iran's Khamene'i

JN051447 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1335 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Aug (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, has received a written message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i on the latest developments in the region.

Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian assistant foreign minister, delivered the message when he was received by His Highness Shaykh Zayid at noon today. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Sultan ibn Zayid; Staff Colonel Shaykh Muhammad ibn Zayid, commander of the Air Force; Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and Mostafa Ha'eri, the Iranian ambassador to the UAE.

IRNA Report on Meeting

LD051922 Tehran IRNA in English 1903 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — Iranian president's special envoy Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam met with head of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyanin Abu Dhabi Wednesday and submitted him President Khamene'i's message dealing with the martyrdom and wounding of thousands of pilgrims by the Saudi police in Mecca Friday.

Sheykh ol-Eslam said that the massacre of pilgrims around Allah's safe house has broken the hearts of Muslims throughout the world and that Saudi rulers perpetrated the crime at a time when all abilities of the Muslim world should be focused on the arch enemy, the United States.

The pilgrims chanted only anti-U.S. and anti-Israeli slogans in their Friday rally, but the Saudi police by opening fire and using suffocating gases responded to them in a bid to overshadow the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf, asserted the Iranian envoy.

Sheykh ol-Esalm, who is deputy foreign minister for political affairs, said the Saudis in a blatant violation of all human and Islamic laws refuse to hand over the wounded and the bodies of martyrs, mostly women and disabled, to Iranian officials. The Saudis are attempting to whitewash their crime and to conceal the humiliation suffered by the U.S., Iraq and Kuwait in confrontation with the Islamic Revolution.

Emphasising that Saudi rulers are not qualified to run the Mecca and Medina sanctuaries, Sheykh ol-Eslam called for condemnation of the U.S. and Saudi Arabia as well as the punishment of those responsible for the massacre.

In response, the UAE leader expressed regret over the Mecca carnage and said that if Muslims had been united, the enemies of Islam would not have been able to launch aggression on Muslim countries so easily. Shaykh Zayid also underlined the need to keep the Persian Gulf free of foreign powers' presence, and said it is possible to maintain security in the region solely through cooperation and understanding among the regional countries.

Communique No 2,767 Notes Combat 4-5 Aug

JN051700 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,767 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces possess the determination of men who believe in God. They are also aware of the honor of responsibility toward the people and the homeland. They carry out their duties with extreme valor and invincible determination. Employing these qualities, our valiant Armed Forces continued their combat activities in various operational sectors. The following is a roundup of these activities for last night and today:

1. Our Air Force today carried out a series of destructive raids on the battlefront. With God's assistance and their known valor, our rapacious hawks managed to wipe out large numbers of enemy personnel concentrations, artillery, vehicles, equipment, and weapons emplacements. After carrying out 96 combat missions, our hawks then returned with their aircraft safely to base in God's care.

2. With their daring raids, the brave helicopter gunship knights continue to inflict the heaviest losses on the enemy. In 63 combat missions today, they wiped out many enemy personnel and destroyed quantities of equipment, weapons, as well as various positions. Our knights then returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. At various times yesterday, six enemy boats attempted to approach the Al-'Amiq Port loading platform. The valiant port force confronted these boats with various types of weapons and forced them to flee to the Iranian coast. At the same time, our brave naval units opened fire on two enemy boats, damaging one while the other fled.

4. Our units and formations in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah delivered concentrated blows against enemy units opposite themselves. They managed to burn and destroy two enemy tanks, one vehicle, and six infantry positions, killing or wounding their occupants.

5. In the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, two enemy scoundrels were killed, others were wounded, and one enemy boat was destroyed.

6. Two enemy heavy machineguns were destroyed and their crews killed, two infantry positions were destroyed, and two ammunition dumps were blown up in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

7. One enemy gun was silenced, one infantry position was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was detonated in the I Army Corps northern sector.

8. Using long-range artillery, the despotic Khomeyniite clique shelled the residential districts on the outskirts of Qalat Dizah. Two citizens were wounded and one house was damaged. May our two wounded have a speedy recovery, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 August 1987

Iranian Opposition Attacks 5 Bases 3 Aug

JN051244 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq organization today announced that National Liberation Army forces launched a series of attacks on five Khomeyni guards military bases in the Sumar area of western Iran the day before yesterday. A press release issued by the organization in Paris today stated that these attacks had killed or wounded 73 guards. The release added that the National Liberation Army forces had also captured two hills within a 2.5-km area.

UN Informed Iran Shelling Residential Areas

JN051826 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] United Nations, 5 Aug (INA) — Iraq has informed the UN Security Council that the Iranian regime continues to shell purely residential areas in Iraq with heavy artillery.

'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations, has delivered a message in this regard to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. In the message, Iraq affirmed that the Iranian regime's artillery had shelled civilian targets in Basra and Qal'at Dizah over the last few days. The message also stated that the shelling had martyred a woman and a child, wounded a number of civilians, and destroyed civilian property.

Foreign Minister Receives Afghan Envoy, Message

JN021405 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received (Surur Yorkin), chairman of the *Afghan News Agency*'s international committee and envoy of Afghan Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil.

During the meeting, Tariq 'Aziz received a written message from the Afghan foreign minister on bilateral relations and the prospects for promoting them. They reviewed cooperation between Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as international issues of interest to both countries.

Shamir Says Shultz Sees 'No Sense' in Conference

TA051635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that during the Knesset summer session the Likud succeeded whereas the Alignment failed. Shamir said that the Likud succeeded because of its insistence on its principles and the public's support for it. Mr Shamir made these statements during a session of the Likud ministers convened to sum up the summer session. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the prime minister briefed the Likud ministers on the expected visit of Charles Hill, aide to Secretary of State Shultz. Mr Hill will arive in Israel next week.

Commenting on this issue, Mr Shamir said that Secretary Shultz knows there is no sense in speaking about a conference. Shamir added that in the government's basic guidelines we have undertaken to prefer peace to anything else, but only in the framework of the Camp David agreements. The prime minister concluded that in this issue we are walking on a solid bridge toward peace.

Jerusalem Believes Hill Bringing Shultz Message

TA051025 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
5 Aug 87 pp 1, 4

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Tzvi Bar'el]

[Excerpt] Charles Hill, U.S. Secretary George Shultz' closest adviser, is leaving for Israel and will meet with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir next Sunday. Jerusalem believes that he will convey a message from Shultz containing a request that Shamir outline the reasons for his opposition to the international conference. The U.S. Administration will consider Shamir's statements to the special envoy in determining its future activity on the conference issue.

Knowledgeable government sources told *Ha'aretz* that the U.S. Administration understands that Shamir is firm in his opposition to the conference, and will thus try to find a common denominator, acceptable to both Shamir and Peres, on the content of the agreement that will be proposed to Jordan. The Foreign Ministry said that rumors about a U.S. initiative that will circumvent the international conference are unfounded. [passage omitted]

Morning Press on Hill Visit

TA060653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0300 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] *Ha'aretz* says that next week's visit to Israel by a senior U.S. State Department official is rather extraordinary. The guest, Mr Hill, is persona grata and will be received in Israel accordingly, even if the purpose of the visit is not obvious to the rank and file. He will talk with all the VIP's, the paper adds, and will return to his country to report, as is feared, that Mr Shamir adheres to his well-known positions. As for the conclusions to be reached by the man responsible for the visit — what measures he will suggest be adopted and when — we had better not indulge in guesswork at the moment.

Davar writes that with all due respect to the permanent and senior State Department team, we need Mr Shultz himself here rather than his emissary. U.S. determination to move the political process forward cannot otherwise be demonstrated. [passage omitted]

Interview With Shamir on Peace Process, Lavi

TA051944 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1835 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Yoram Ronen and political correspondent Yig'al Goren — live in the studio]

[Text] [Ronen] Mr Shamir, do you intend to initiate a meeting with Shim'on Peres to agree on joint Cabinet action on the major issues in order to ensure that this Cabinet will be able to function smoothly in the last year before the end of its term?

[Shamir] I do not believe that I should launch any new initiative. We have a coalition agreement with basic guidelines that were mutually acceptable and furthermore sanctioned by the Knesset. I am duty-bound to follow the stipulations of this agreement, and I call upon the partners of this Cabinet to realign themselves according to this agreement, this document outlining the Cabinet's basic guidelines. If we all scrupulously observe and honor these agreements, there will be no problems and the Cabinet will encounter no hurdles in functioning and achieving its goals.

[Ronen] The Alignment claims that it plans to reach a dialogue with you and with the Likud on an agreed-upon date for early elections, possibly next spring, if you agree to meet with them.

[Shamir] I see no need to reach an agreement on dates. We already have a date; it appears in the agreement: November 1988. Furthermore, the agreement also stipulates the way to pursue the peace process. I think the agreement reflects the people's wishes and can serve Israel's interests best. That is why I believe the only avenue we can follow is that of fulfilling the agreement, preserving the Cabinet, and putting an end to the lame attempts to disband the Cabinet. Instead, we should work together for the good of the country.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, the main bone of contention is, of course, the international conference for peace in the Middle East. Recently you have been heard to say that you have your own ideas to promote the political process without an international conference. Could you, perhaps for the first time here, actually tell us what these ideas are for promoting the political process without an international conference?

[Shamir] I am grateful to you for presenting this question. Now, as the Knesset begins its summer recess and in view of the fact that despite the announcements the Knesset has not been dissolved and the Cabinet has not been disbanded, and seeing that the enthusiasm over the international conference idea is diminishing, I believe there is a greater objective chance for real

political activity to develop in the direction of promoting genuine, direct negotiations for peace with our neighbors.

[Ronen] Such as what? What new idea do you intend to propose that you believe could be acceptable to King Husayn as well? After all, it takes two to tango.

[Shamir] I am under no obligation to invent new ideas day in and day out. Yet I must say that this evening, before coming to the studio, I again perused the Cabinet's basic guidelines, which were so carefully worded, and saw that they clearly state that Israel will grant first priority to the attainment of peace. We will work to achieve peace. How? In the spirit of the framework agreement for peace reached at Camp David; in the spirit of the agreement on the institution of autonomy for the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza; in the spirit of the agreement between us that no Palestinian state will be set up between Israel and the Jordan River; and in the spirit of the stipulation that no negotiations will be conducted with the PLO. It is possible, within these parameters and framework, to conduct negotiations over any issue under the sun to reach agreements with our neighbors — whether they are interim agreements, or long-term agreements on coexistence in the Middle East.

[Goren] The question, sir, is what technical steps you can or plan to take to promote the process and move it in the direction you have indicated. After all, Shim'on Peres tried to steer the process toward an international conference, where he made little progress and accumulated quite a few disappointments. Where will you begin?

[Shamir] Look, I think that now, in view of the decreasing allure of the international conference, I should devote a great deal of time in the coming few weeks to holding political talks with various regional and international elements to set down the principles and basis for prolonged, serious, and secret negotiations on the possibilities for coexistence.

[Goren] What elements?

[Shamir] Next week we will begin a series of talks with the United States for possible solutions outside — I hasten to say — the option of the international conference.

[Ronen] But it seems to me that one cannot get the same impression from messages from the United States, where it is being said that Charles Hill, Secretary of State Shultz' aide, is coming here to try to persuade you to agree, perhaps, to go along with this path of an international conference — the only way acceptable to Husayn.

[Shamir] I have never been told this, nor do I think that Charles Hill will take the time and trouble to come here to carry out an impossible mission.

[Goren] He is familiar with your views.

[Shamir] He is well aware of the fact that there is no point discussing this issue with me, because I do not believe an international conference would serve the goal of peace. However, I am interested — actually very interested — in discussing alternative ways, different possibilities. Furthermore, during my visit to Washington in February, I already started discussing this during several intimate talks with Secretary of State Shultz, who is well aware of my way of thinking. But what I have in mind does not involve only the Americans.

As it happened, the possibility of talks with Ceausescu in Bucharest arose. At present, Romania is at the focal point, with antennas extended in various directions of the international arena. I have recently been engaged in talks with personalities from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. I will hold additional talks in the area, but let me first tell you that none of them will be held with the goal of gaining publicity; they will not be held to make an impression. Their aim will be to pave the way for genuine negotiations which, although difficult, will nevertheless take into account the prevailing constraints so in the end we will be able to sit down together and work things out with our neighbors — foremost of which, of course, is Jordan.

[Ronen] When you say regional talks, Mr Prime Minister, do you mean talks with President Mubarak — as the Americans, I understand, have suggested — or perhaps even a clandestine meeting with King Husayn just as Shim'on Peres held a secret meeting with the monarch?

[Shamir] I cannot go into detail, but the objective is to hold talks which may be regional; or between Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and the United States in a bid to find the common denominator that would allow us to coexist for a long time to come until the time comes for permanent solutions.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, everyone knows the main point is that if negotiations of any sort begin — whether under the auspices of an international conference or directly, outside the framework of such a conference — the moment of truth will come in our contacts with Jordan when we may have to pay something. Are you prepared to pay anything in return for a peace agreement?

[Shamir] I will not launch negotiations with you around this table, after all. It is, first of all, necessary to start these negotiations and that they be direct, without coercion or arm twisting, and carried out with a mutual effort to persuade each other. Clearly, negotiations by definition imply openness by both sides.

I am convinced that it is possible to find common ground and that we do have something to discuss without contradicting my principles, which are largely known, or encroaching on others' principles.

[Ronen] Perhaps I will augment the question Yig'al presented by recalling the negotiations we held with Egypt, which were sparked off by a meeting between Moshe Dayan and Al-Tuhami, Al-Sadat's adviser, during which it became evident to President al-Sadat that we were prepared to concede large chunks of the Sinai. This, in fact, was the precondition for the negotiations.

[Shamir] I beg to differ. Of course, analogies are dangerous. Naturally one can always find similarities, but no one state is exactly identical to the other. And incidentally, as regards the story about the meeting between Al-Tuhami and the late Moshe

Dayan, I currently work with Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein — may he live a long life — who was an aide to Moshe Dayan at the time.

[Ronen] No, that was a bit later.

[Shamir] And he firmly denies this story. That is not how things were done. Yet this is irrelevant to our case. Of course, direct negotiations with Egypt were then launched, and they bore fruit.

[Goren] But the question, sir, is whether you can foresee any real chance for peace with Jordan while still perpetuating the current state of affairs — namely, with Israel continuing to control all the territories — or whether you will be ready, in principle and without going into detail, to consider the possibility of another solution?

[Shamir] I have already said that we do have something to discuss. I believe there is a possibility of reaching an agreement that will not go against my ideas and goals.

[Ronen] At any rate, you, Mr Prime Minister, are convinced now that the United States knows or has begun to realize that as long as you, Yitzhaq Shamir, head the Israeli Government, there is no sense talking about an international conference?

[Shamir] Without a doubt.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, the Alignment maintains that at the time you opposed the peace agreement with Egypt and later also objected to the pullback from Lebanon. Well, they claim that in both cases you were wrong, and that in the end you may be found to be wrong in your rejection of an international conference, too.

[Shamir] I am familiar with the Alignment's contentions and can even compound them with some more arguments. Yet I believe they are wrong; I did not oppose the peace agreement with Egypt.

[Ronen] You abstained.

[Shamir] I disagreed with some clauses in that agreement, but I had been thinking about peace with Egypt even long before that peace was achieved. I believe that today, in detailed negotiations in which the parties do not seek any sensationalism and in which all the parties evince mutual consideration for each other, it will be possible to reach an agreement — even if gradually, slowly, and in accordance with the rationale and principles reached at Camp David. I maintain that this is possible.

[Goren] Do you fear, sir, that the United States, France, Britain — all friends of ours — might try to lead us to an international conference if it could be so dangerous to Israel's very existence?

[Shamir] Let me tell you something: It is true that they are friends of ours, there is no doubt about that; but you know, in the United States, after every meeting of an Israeli prime minister with the U.S. President in which the two discuss cooperation and friendship, the U.S. President repeats that this cooperation and friendship will continue despite the existing differences of opinion between us on important issues. What do we differ over? Israel's borders and the status of Jerusalem. On these issues there are differences of opinion between us, and still the cooperation continues and even increases, and there is a very close friendship. I can say almost the same regarding France and Britain, actually all of Europe. We disagree with their principles as expressed in the famous Venice Declaration of 1980, but this does not stop us from maintaining excellent ties of economic cooperation with them and from engaging in an ongoing political dialogue these differences notwithstanding. These are the rules of international relations.

[Goren] I am very much interested in finding out, Mr Prime Minister, if you too have reached the conclusion that it is impossible to continue to keep the prevailing political state of affairs frozen and whether you agree that it is necessary to do everything to achieve progress in the political process — although not at all costs? I would like to know whether you, too, believe that the existing situation is beginning to be dangerous.

[Shamir] Our goal has always been, and will continue to be, to make peace with our neighbors. And although the situation at present is not all that bad -- we have a peace treaty with Egypt; there are no outstanding or acute security, or for that matter any other, problems with Jordan -- still it is necessary to boost the peaceful relations with Egypt and it is likewise necessary to reach peace with Jordan, if only a formal peace agreement. It is necessary to take action in this direction.

[Goren] What about the demographic problem and the continued rule over so many Arabs in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District?

[Shamir] There has always been a demographic problem in Eretz Yisra'el, even millennia ago, when the Jewish people — the Israelites, or the Kingdom of Judah — experienced demographic problems vis-a-vis various peoples who lived in Eretz Yisra'el. And yet we lived with it and contended with it. When we first started to return to Eretz Yisra'el, were we oblivious of the fact that Arabs were living here? We were here as a Jewish minority among an Arab majority for years. But still, thank God, the State of Israel was established, and has grown stronger. It is clear to us that two nations will live in Eretz Yisra'el.

[Ronen] But it seems, Mr Shamir, that the situation is somewhat different than the situation that prevailed in 1948, as we are ruling over more than 1 million Arabs in Judaea and Samaria. Deputy Minister Katz-'Oz said yesterday that if we continue to hold on to the Gaza Strip, in that part of the world alone there will be 1.25 million Arabs by the year 2000.

[Shamir] Do me a favor, please do not remind me of Katz-'Oz.

[Ronen] Why not? Do you disagree with his idea?

[Shamir] How can one, just after an Israeli officer is killed by terrorists, on the same day or the day after, come and say Israel should pull out of Gaza? Can there be any greater encouragement to Arab terrorism? He found a fine day to say such things! The same could happen in Nabulus tomorrow. Besides, did they not kill Jews in Jerusalem or in Tel Aviv? What kind of attitude is this?

There is a demographic problem, but it cannot be solved under the threat of terrorism. We must find a way to coexist. We will handle the demographic problem. The Jewish people have not yet completed their mission in Eretz Yisra'el. The majority of the Jewish people should live here, as I believe they will.

[Goren] Do you believe that the demographic problem could be resolved by way of the transfer of Arabs to Jordan?

[Shamir] God forbid.

[Goren] To date you have not spoken your mind on this issue in public.

[Shamir] Yes, I have. I said this is a private opinion, not mine or that of the Herut movement or the Likud. I reiterated many times that the two nations are destined to coexist in Eretz Yisra'el. But Eretz Yisra'el will be a Jewish state.

[Ronen] Have you summoned Deputy Defense Minister Mikha'el Deqel? Have you talked to him and explained the gravity of his statement on the transfer?

[Shamir] Look, we meet frequently, and the Likud or the Herut movement are not totalitarian, monolithic movements. They are home for a variety of views. But there is still the official position, which is binding, and it recognizes the fact that peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs must prevail in Eretz Yisra'el. I firmly believe this indeed will happen.

[Ronen] Still there is a slight difference between the statement on the transfer coming even from a reserve major general, such as Rehav'am Ze'evi, and from a man holding the position of deputy defense minister of Israel.

[Shamir] It is not the end of the world. If one hears a dissenting opinion, well such things have already been known to happen. But these statements are not binding and have no effect on policy.

[Goren] Mr Prime Minister, there are those who say that the international peace conference — and you head this school of thought — may bring in the Soviet Union to our region by the back door. On the eve of your assuming the post of prime minister you told me you attribute great importance to establishing ties with the Soviet Union. How do these things go together?

[Shamir] Indeed, I think I was among the first who openly said that we should strive to improve our relations with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is one of the greatest superpowers in the world. It is an anomaly — this is the expression I used — that there are no normal relations between ourselves and the Soviet Union. When I met Gromyko, who was then foreign minister — this was 3 or 4 years ago — I told him this clearly: It is not normal that there are no relations between us. There is no reason whatsoever to prevent such relations. We are not enemies of the Soviet Union; we remember very well the position taken by the Soviet Union when Israel was established. At that time the Soviet Union stood by us. Such things are never forgotten. However, I told Gromyko that as long as they do not change their position toward Israel — toward which they have a very negative stand — and toward the Jews living in the Soviet Union, they will have no right and no possiblity of being partners to any kind of diplomatic process in the Middle East.

[Ronen] Has this position changed a little today, in Gorbachev's day?

[Shamir] Unfortunately not.

[Goren] Do you not see any signs of...

[Shamir, interrupting] This glasnost, which all the world is expecting to bring positive changes, has not reached the sphere of Israeli Soviet relations yet.

[Goren] Is there not improvement in the Jewish issue?

[Shamir] What improvement?

[Goren] Prisoners of Zion are emigrating; the Jews enjoy more freedom. Is this not so?

[Shamir] There must be a drastic change in the position toward Israel. Diplomatic relations must be established without conditions and without anything being given in return. Why should we pay for this?

[Goren] Is not the consular delegation a first sign?

[Shamir] It is not even a substitute. Regarding the Jews, there must be a clear policy that any Jew living in the Soviet Union and who desires to return to his homeland should be allowed to do so. You have seen what has happened with the Tatars in Russia now. There was talk about a revision; Gromyko met with them. Why do they not think about a revision of the policy toward the Jewish people living in Russia. The Jewish people have nothing there, no cultural autonomy, no synagogues, no possibility of maintaining their own lives. Why should they not change this? Moreover, I told Gromyko that without them changing their policy they will not be able to participate in efforts to solve our conflict with the Arabs. But even then, if they ask me, I am still against an international conference. It is not related to their participation or non-participation.

[Ronen] I think we have understood the issue of the international conference, at least until the arrival of Secretary of State Shultz' aide, or even Shultz himself. With your permission, Mr Prime Minister, I would now like to turn to the Lavi issue. Would you say you unequivocally support the continuation of the Lavi project, despite the firm opposition of the defense and finance ministers, as well as the entire IDF General Staff?

[Shamir] It is good that you have returned to the country's daily problems, because I think that despite the fact that the issue of the international conference dampens the relations, the government functions. It functions in the security sphere — our situation in this area is not bad; in the economic sphere there is progress — we are still in the beginning or in the middle, but there is progress. There is also activity in the social sphere.

The issue of the Lavi is a difficult problem. It is a great project and challenge, and I believe we must not abandon it. There is a

problem of funds. We must make the effort to attain the funds by means of decreasing expenses, improving the system which is building the project, and also by means of new sources...

[Goren, interrupting] You see real chances of continuing this project, despite...

[Shamir, interrupting] Not merely a chance, but a need. If there are difficulties we must overcome them.

[Goren] Is there no danger that in a few years the state comptroller will say the decisionmaking process was faulty?

[Shamir] He who has the task of solving the country's problems should not think about the state comptroller. He should act according to the law and regulations and on the basis of his understanding of Israel's needs.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, you spoke about the possibility of improving the systems in the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI], of cutbacks, perhaps a smaller Lavi. All these things have been discussed and weighed, and it was found that they are unattainable. We are speaking about a huge sum of $200 million annually necessary for the continuation of the Lavi project. How can we obtain such a huge sum without deviating from the state budget?

[Shamir] These numbers are controversial as you probably know. This is one of the weaknesses and one of the difficulties in the debate over the Lavi: there are conflicting numbers, data, and positions. I think there is room for improvement and that it is possible to solve all the problems and difficulties. We should do this together, the defense establishment together with the IAI, the Treasury and the entire government, because it is inconceivable that Israel forego and abandon such a presitigious project which increases Israel's status in the world and gives us strength and power both economically and technologically.

[Goren] Do you think you will be able to convince ministers to cut their ministries' budgets to raise this sum?

[Shamir] If this is necessary we will do so.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, what answer do you have to give the defense minister, the chief of staff and the members of the General Staff who repeatedly say that if the Lavi project is continued the IDF's security faces a grave danger?

[Shamir] I think this is greatly exaggerated. I think that by improving the system and decreasing the costs we can find funds for those things which today go by the name of alternatives. It is not clear exactly when and how they will be done, but to the best of my knowledge it is possible to settle these things; there is no contradiction here. Many times we have heard extreme positions, but the facts disproved them. I think we should proceed soberly, with a correct assessment of all the elements. We should discriminate between what is important and what is unimportant and not abandon a national project that is extremely important.

[Ronen] In other words, Mr Prime Minister, I understand that in 10 days you intend to bring the Lavi issue up for a government decision and that you will do everything possible to get a decision passed in favor of the Lavi?

[Shamir] You are not mistaken.

[Goren] Do you have an understanding with the vice prime minister on this issue?

[Shamir] I have not spoken with him yet. My impression is that he is in favor of the continuation of the Lavi.

[Goren] Sir, how would you define recent relations between you and Shim'on Peres?

[Shamir] This is not a matter of personal relations.

[Goren] On a daily basis, in your meetings, is there any tension?

[Shamir] I would not say that there is tension. We are working together on what has to be done together.

[Goren] If there is a tie after the next election, will you again support the idea of a national unity government?

[Shamir] Let us cross that bridge when we reach it. I do not rule out of hand the idea of national unity and a national unity government. On the contrary, I think that in Israel's conditions it can be a desirable solution, or at least the best solution in certain conditions.

[Ronen] Finally, Mr Prime Minister, even if the elections are held on schedule, in November 1988, it is to be assumed that in several months, next year, the contest over the Likud leadership for the next elections will begin. Do you see yourself as heading the Likud during the next elections, or do you intend to step aside for younger people?

[Shamir] I have not decided yet. There is certainly a need and room for the advancement of younger people. I am glad to say that the Likud has a considerable number of very promising and interesting young forces. As for myself, I have still not decided.

[Ronen] Do you see one of these young people succeeding you?

[Shamir] I am not selecting heirs; we are not a monarchy. The Likud is a democratic movement and when the time comes the candidates will be chosen and the candidate will be selected, and everything will find its solution.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, thank you for coming to the studio this evening.

Peres, Rabin Defer Tabah Compromise Proposal

TA051545 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] The U.S. compromise proposal on Tabah will be discussed here in a few months. This was decided by Ministers Peres and Rabin because of the predictable opposition of Prime Minister

Shamir to this proposal. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel provides more details:

[Begin recording] The U.S. Administration is worried about the possible outcome of the Tabah arbitration and the possible political implications of one side's losing the battle. That is why the Americans have offered a compromise that would circumvent the arbitration, suggesting this division: The Egyptians will have sovereignty over the area, while Israel will enjoy free access to and ownership of the hotel, the installations, and the [Rafi Nelson] resort village.

Some people in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem believe that the Egyptian claim submitted to the arbitrators is stronger than the Israeli claim, so it would be advisable to discuss the U.S. proposal seriously. That is why a debate was held today in Minister Shim'on Peres' office, attended by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin; Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir; and Robi Sabel, the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser. The decision made by that forum was that the discussion of the compromise proposal will be deferred indefinitely because Tabah is no longer a burning or major issue. Similar compromise proposals have been submitted before — after all, the arbitration process is continuing anyway. And beyond all this, both Peres and Rabin do not wish to enter into a confrontation over this with Yitzhaq Shamir. It took them over a year to talk him into accepting the arbitration process, and now they know they will encounter great difficulty trying to persuade him to bypass the process.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, as we have said before, opposes the compromise proposal, which in effect spells an a priori Israeli concession of sovereignty over the Tabah region. Shamir has recently expressed himself very strongly against the Foreign Ministry's legal advisers, who have little faith in the Israeli argument, and said they would be well advised to resign.

Thus, the arbitration process will continue as scheduled. The parties are currently in the counterargument writing process, and the U.S. proposal may be broached once again in approximately 3 months, within the framework of the time given by the arbitration process itself for discussion of compromise proposals. [end recording]

Price of Sovereignty 'Too High'

TA061931 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Aug 87 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres and Defense Minister Rabin yesterday rejected an American compromise proposal to resolve the Israeli-Egyptian border dispute over Tabah, and decided to continue with the international arbitration in Geneva.

Under the American proposal, submitted to Jerusalem and Cairo two to three months ago, Egypt would be given sovereignty over the whole area while Israel would be granted full and more or less free access to the area. The proposal also provides for some form of continuing Israeli ownership of the Sonesta Hotel and the Rafi Nelson "village" at the site.

Sources said Peres and Rabin and their aides — including Foreign Ministry legal adviser Robi Sabel and Director-General Avraham Tamir — felt that "the price of (granting the Egyptians) sovereignty is too high. We believe that we have a good case. We don't have to run after a compromise."

The Egyptians, it is understood, in Jerusalem, took a more positive view of the American proposal and "were willing to discuss (a compromise solution) on this basis."

Israeli legal experts are currently preparing a counter- memorial, Israel's response to Egypt's original submission to the Geneva tribunal. The Israeli and Egyptian counter-memorials will be submitted to the arbitration panel in mid-October, after which there will be a six-week period when the sides can consider what the compromis calls "recommendations for a solution," meaning crompromise ideas.

Prime Minister Shamir, who has not been consulted about the American proposals, is understood to be "open to compromise. But it depends what sort of compromise."

Peres, Rabin and Shamir will probably discuss the current American working paper and other ideas for a compromise soon after Shamir's return from Romania, towards the end of the month. But real movement can only be expected in the weeks following the submission of the counter-memorials at Geneva, and then only if the Egyptians, after assessing the Israeli memorial and counter-memorial, come to feel that Israel has a strong cause.

UNIFIL Incident Caused by 'Faulty Coordination'

TA051705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] The IDF has ended its investigation of the shooting incident that occurred yesterday, during which two UNIFIL soldiers from the Norwegian contingent were wounded in the eastern sector of the security strip. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the investigation shows that the incident took place because of faulty coordination between the IDF force and the Norwegian force in the area. It transpired that 1 day before the incident, a senior IDF officer met with an officer from the Norwegian battalion to coordinate the sectors and times in which the forces in the area can function — the reference is to the IDF, the South Lebanese Army, and UNIFIL.

The investigation showed that on the night of the incident the Norwegian force was in the area, which it had been agreed that it would not move in. The Norwegian force conveyed a message on a change of sectors to the IDF too late, and therefore the incident was unavoidable. Our military correspondent reports that this afternoon Norwegian officers met with IDF officers to discussion the prevention of the recurrence of such incidents.

AL-FAJR's Sinyurah To Stand Trial on 3 Charges

TA051444 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Hanna Sinyurah, editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper *Al-Fajr*, will stand trial on three charges. Our Knesset correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that the police and the State Attorney's Office are considering the possibility of filing two more charges against the background of his support for the PLO. This was announced by the police affairs minister in the Knesset in answer to a query by Dov Shilansky. The Knesset member wanted to know what the police have done concerning a series of complaints filed by attorney Elyaqim Ha'etzni from Qiryat Arba'. From the minister's answer it transpires that Hanna Sinyurah will be tried because of a column he published in his newspaper, a placard he hung in the newspaper's offices, and a picture of 'Arafat he hung above his desk.

The police also recommend trying him because his newspaper has expressed support for the PLO. It also recommends charges because Hanna Sinyurah interviewed Yasir 'Arafat.

AL-FAJR Lauds 'Restoration' of Egypt-PLO Relations

TA051522 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 2 Aug 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Principles of the Palestinian-Egyptian Relationship"]

[Text] Egypt's decision to reopen the PLO offices in Cairo is a major step toward the restoration of normal relations between Egypt and the PLO. This course will assume greater significance with Yasir 'Arafat's anticipated visit to Cairo and his meeting with President Husni Mubarak and other Egyptian officials.

From the very first moments that the current crisis with Egypt broke out, the PLO has affirmed that it was merely a "misunderstanding" that should be overcome as soon as possible. Through the mandate of the 18th PNC resolutions, the PLO proceeded to emphasize the correct perception of these resolutions, on the one hand, and the necessity of restoring normal relations with Egypt — through this perception — on the other.

The meeting in Addis Ababa several days ago between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak was a proper crowning of the efforts made by both sides to eliminate the remnant of that crisis. The expected meeting between them in Cairo during the coming days will naturally represent a serious pursuit of every element that deepens and consolidates the principles of Palestinian-Egyptian relations in light of the national rights of our Palestinian people everywhere, and in view of the qualified Egyptian role and its strategic importance in support of these rights.

The PLO's concern for the Egyptian role is necessarily consistent with Egypt's concern for the PLO's role in all the political equations in the region, and more explicitly for PLO participation in the proposed international conference on equal footing with the other parties. In fact, Egypt had affirmed this Palestinian role even during the last crisis, and now it is more eager to confirm its known position.

It is natural to refer here to the recent meeting between national personalities and Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid during his visit to Israel. In the memorandum presented to him, these personalities affirmed their total national conviction in the necessity of restoring normal relations between Egypt and the PLO, the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people, both in the occupied terrritories and abroad. The restoration of these relations now — fully and comprehensively in all fields — will provide us with a further opportunity to look at the future in the light of a new stage in which all Arab efforts are united without crisis or marginal rivalries.

2 Injured in Molotov Cocktail Attack Near Qalqilyah

TA060512 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown about 75 minutes ago at an Israeli vehicle near Alfe Menashe. 'Edna and Menashe Regev from Alfe Menashe were in the vehicle at the time. Mrs Regev has sustained second degree burns on her face and chest. She was hospitalized in the Me'ir Hospital in Kefar Sava. Her husband, Menashe Regev, was slightly hurt in his back. He received treatment and was not hospitalized.

A curfew has been imposed on the area and the security forces are conducting searches. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that roadblocks have been set up at the entrances to Qalqilyah and several nearby villages. Large Army forces are arriving at the site as retaliatory acts are feared.

Levi: Attack 'Vile Incident'

TA061047 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said that the attack this morning near Alfe Menashe is a vile incident which teaches us the need for spiritual revival and continued settlement activity. Mr Levi spoke at the inauguration of that section of the trans-Samaria road which extends from the Morasha intersection to that at Kafr Qasim.

Shlomo Qatan, head of the Alfe Menashe local council, asked Minister Levi to extend the road as far as Alfe Menashe.

Young demonstrators tried to disrupt the deputy prime minister's speech. A brawl ensued and one of the demonstrators was detained. This has been reported by our correspondent Yosi Rivlin.

Attacks Linked to 'Id al-Adha

TA060644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Excerpts] A Molotov cocktail was thrown last night at a No 70 Egged bus at the entrance to 'Ofra. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. [passage omitted]

Security sources told our correspondent that terrorists are trying to spoil the festive atmosphere of this year's 'Id al-Adha [Feast of the Sacrifice], and are thus pushing residents of the territories into clashes with the authorities. This activity by the terrorists comes in the wake of the security forces' capture of several important terrorist networks. At the same time, our correspondent notes that a Molotov cocktail was also thrown at an Israeli bus in Nabulus during 'Id al-Adha last year.

Plans for Borehole in Bethlehem Draw Criticism
TA052029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Israel is planning to sink a diagonal borehole from this side of the Green Line to the Bethlehem area to boost pumping of underground water. The Voice of Israel's political affairs correspondent says the agriculture, defense, and foreign ministers have given their approval to the project, which is aimed at deep underground reserves not tapped at present. Any wells affected in the Bethlehem area would be resupplied.

The Foreign Ministry's director general for political affairs, Yosi Beilin, is opposed to the plan, saying it invites political pressure from abroad.

Jewish Satellite Network Direct Link With U.S.
TA060515 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] An Israeli company has begun to operate a communications satellite network which will directly link Israel to all Jewish centers in the United States and establish links between the centers themselves. Reference is to meetings being conducted through the use of large screens, with direct conversation between the parties. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik has learned that the project, named the Jewish Satellite Network, is headed by Mr Me'ir 'Amit, a former IDF major general and minister. The network will be officially inaugurated next month.

Junblatt Denounces Mecca Incident, Urges Unity
NC051837 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Last Friday's events in Mecca continue to have repercussions at various levels. In a statement he made today, PSP leader Walid Junblatt denounced the incident, describing it as a trap for all Muslims and warning of the danger of falling into it. He called on everyone to rise above differences and divisions which only serve colonialist forces.

Junblatt expressed his profound sorrow for the victims who fell in Mecca. He appealed to the Islamic forces of all countries and sects to unite their ranks and stands to confront the conspiracies designed to foment feuds, trigger conflicts, and promote wars in order to impair the Muslim nation's potential and development.

Iranian Embassy in Beirut Vows Response to Mecca
NC051804 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1550 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] We have received the following from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Beirut: The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran extends its gratitude to all the ulema, political and religious figures, active party forces, institutions, and public delegations who visited, contacted, or cabled the embassy to express their condolences and to denounce the massacre of the pilgrims in holy Mecca. This massacre has confirmed the extent of international arrogance's ability to dominate our Islamic shrines and rituals through a handful of its agents and stooges, who proved beyond any doubt that they are unable to act as custodians of the two holy mosques, and that these shrines require administration by an international Islamic body. The embassy vows to all Muslims that the blood of the massacre's victims will not be wasted. The [Iranian] Republic knows when and where to react.

In conclusion, the embassy called for a ceremony to take place at 1600 on Saturday, 8 August, in order to mark the passage of 1 week since the massacre occurred.

Syrian Defense Minister Addresses Forces in Beirut
JN051804 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] At President Hafiz al-Asad's instructions, General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, visited our forces operating in Beirut on the second day of the blessed 'Id al-Adha. He was accompanied by General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces.

Gen Talas met with the comrade fighters. He conveyed to them the president's congratulations and wishes for success in their sacred pan-Arab missions. He also conveyed the president's instructions to continue the persistent, earnest work to foil the conspiracy concocted by imperialism and Zionism in Lebanon.

Gen Talas also talked about the most important developments in the Arab world. He noted the joint Syrian-Soviet space flight. He affirmed the success of this flight thanks to the party's and struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad's sponsorship, as well as his care for science, scientists, and the march of progress and development in the country. Gen Talas asserted that this flight reflects the spirit of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the friendly USSR. He said that through these relations of friendship we will confront the hostile forces, represented by imperialism and Zionism.

Gen Talas also spoke about the role of our brave Armed Froces in entrenching security and stability in Lebanon. He said: Zionism and its agents in the region attempted to shake the unity of national ranks and to deprive our Lebanese brothers of happiness by assassinating martyr Rashid Karami. Gen Talas added that Al-Asad's Syria will not remain silent about these killers and henchmen regardless of the price and sacrifice.

Palestinians Kidnap 3 Amal Members Near Sidon
NC060531 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Palestinian gunmen kidnapped three Amal Movement members on the Sayniq Bridge yesterday. This incident has generated a state of alert and a show of force east of Sidon.

It should also be recalled that intensive contacts were held in Sidon yesterday to curb the repercussions resulting from the murder of three Shi'ites by Palestinian gunmen 3 days ago. A statement issued at the end of these meetings called on the Palestinian leaders to shoulder responsibility for the killings. Meanwhile, the Palestinian Revolutionary Court in 'Ayn al-Hulwah has passed the death sentence against the three culprits who committed the crime. Two other people were sentenced to life imprisonment. Palestinian sources noted that the verdict can only be carried out with official approval from the PLO leadership.

Israeli Helicopters Raid Positions in South
NC060852 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Israeli helicopters raided military positions in the Mimas Valley in the South between 0900 and 1030 today. The areas of Tanta and Al-Birah were bombarded shortly before the raid.

Soviet-Kabul Offensive in Qandahar 'Paused' 2 Aug

BK030054 Hong Kong AFP in English 0036 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 2 (AFP) — A week-long offensive by Soviet and Kabul troops on the Mujahidin rebel stronghold of Panjwai in southern Afghanistan paused Sunday as part of the attacking force was withdrawn, rebel sources said. Seventeen rebels, 27 government troops and 19 Soviet troops have been killed since the offensive was launched on July 25, the *Afghan Islamic Press* agency (AIP) said, quoting guerrillas.

The AIP, which is close to the mujahidin, also said 25 rebels had been wounded, two Afghan planes shot down and a number of government tanks and other vehicles destroyed. Various rebel sources said part of the Soviet-Afghan force besieging Panjwai, the third rebel stronghold around the town of Qandahar to have been attacked since May, had withdrawn Sunday. But the AIP, in a dispatch monitored here, noted that fresh troops had arrived in Qandahar on Friday.

Some 1,000 people fleeing the fighting arrived Sunday in refugee camps north of the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta, local correspondents said. Meanwhile, Radio Kabul reported that four civilians had been killed Friday in shelling by rebels on a village in the eastern province of Paktia.

The radio, in a report monitored here, also said an Afghan Foreign Office spokesman had denied Pakistani charges of Afghan involvement in last month's bomb blasts in Karachi and other Pakistani centers.

In another development, the Pakistani authorities have ordered mujahidin guerrilla organizations to immediately move their offices in Quetta to about 40 kilometers (24 miles) north of the city according to correspondents and rebel sources. The rebel sources said the order had originally been due to go into effect in September, but the organizations have now been told to move before Monday.

Local authorities have started a census of Afghan refugees in Quetta, the correspondents said.

Rebel Leader Opposes Return of Former King

BK011452 Karachi DAWN in English 26 Jul 87 p 10

[Text] Peshawar, July 25: Engineer Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, head of the Hezb-e Eslami, Afghanistan, has opposed the return of ex-king Zahir Shah to Afghanistan and described it as the brainchild of 'those handful of persons loyal to the ex-king.'

Asked to comment on the acceptance of the proposal by three other components of the seven-party alliance of which his party was also a part, he said only three persons made the announcement and the proposal had been rejected by the commanders of three parties at a recent get-together in Quetta.

Mr. Hikmatyar was of the view that the Russians having become tired of the war in Afghanistan now want to quit but at the same time are trying to install a regime of their choice. He warned that if the ex-king arrived through the Moscow route, he would never be acceptable to the Afghan nation.

He made an offer to provide a force consisting of resistance troops to supervise withdrawal of Soviet troops and the time logistically needed.

Later, he added, the resistance would form an interim government to hold elections in the country which, he insisted, was the only solution of the issue and keeping peace in Afghanistan.

The Hezb-e Eslami leader also denied that the mujahidin were using Stinger and Blowpipe missiles and said the rumours were being spread by Soviet agents in view of success achieved by the resistance.

Mr Hikmatyar was least interested in ceasefire and national reconciliation offers and expressed the view these were delaying tactics designed to gain time to destabilise Pakistan.

He said that Moscow committed a blunder by removing Karmal and replacing him by Najib.

He told a questioner that the mujahidin had shot down some 1400 Soviet-built warplanes since the start of hostilities.

When asked if mujahidin would agree to a ceasefire for at least one day to facilitate the burial of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan at Jallabad in the event of his death, Mr Hikmatyar had no comments to offer. He, however, expressed the view that Ghaffar Khan should not be buried in the area where two sides were engaged in a war.

'Arafat Comments on Visit, Accord Upon Departure

BK050906 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] The PLO chairman, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, was given a warm send-off when he left New Delhi this morning after his 3-day state visit to the country. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and his ministerial colleagues and members of Parliament were present at the airport.

Speaking to newsmen before leaving, Mr 'Arafat described his visit to India as very fruitful. Referring to the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement, he said it is one of the most important events in Asia this year. It will give stability not only to Sri Lanka but to the whole region. The PLO leader said the agreement shows that we have the ability to solve our problems without interference from outside forces.

Referring to the LTTE chief, Mr Prabahakaran's decision to lay down arms, Mr 'Arafat said it has proved that we have the capacity to implement what has been agreed upon.

About the Iran-Iraq war, Mr 'Arafat said both India and the PLO hold the same view and express confidence that a cease-fire would be achieved very soon. He welcomed the UN Security Council's resolution asking the two countries to end the conflict.

Home Minister Says Delhi Police Strengthened

BK041221 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 4 Aug 87

[Text] The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, assured the Rajya Sabha [Upper House] today that steps have been taken to revamp the Delhi police to meet the terrorist problem effectively.

He told the members during question time that the strength of the police has been raised. They are being provided with sophisticated equipment and adequate training. The intelligence system has also been geared up.

The home minister sought the cooperation of political parties and social organizations in averting a communal fallout. Mr Buta Singh said that a special cell has been set up in the Delhi police to deal with the problem. The home minister ruled out any talks with the terrorists in Punjab.

In a written reply, he informed the House that the government has no information as to which authority permitted the Jain Muni [head of a religious sect] to hold discussions with the jathedars [Sikh religious leaders] of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] recently.

He also ruled out any proposal to delink the Indian police service from the combined civil services examination.

Replying to another question, he said that the examination system is working satisfactorily. Even the police commission has not set any proposal for such delinking, he added.

Bill Introduced To Increase Detention Period

BK010503 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] In the Lok Sabha [Lower House] yesterday, the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, introduced a bill to further amend the National Security Act 1980. It modifies the original act in its application to the State of Punjab and the union territory of Chandigarh. The bill replaces an ordinance of 9 June which seeks to increase the period of detention from 10 to 15 days, within which the grounds of detention may be communicated to the detenu [the detained]. The introduction of the bill was opposed by some opposition members who argued that the provisions violated the fundamental rights.

Amritsar 'Tense' As Sikhs Assemble at Temple

BK040704 Hong Kong AFP in English 0654 GMT 4 Aug 87

[Text] Amritsar, India, Aug 3 (AFP) — This holy city was tense Tuesday as hundreds of Sikhs began assembling at the Golden Temple to define the goal of the Sikh struggle in Punjab.

Rival groups brandishing swords had gathered inside the marbled temple complex two hours before a convention called by Sikhs' head priest was due to start, witnesses said.

Militants and moderates were heatedly canvassing for and against the Sikh militant goal of an independent Sikh nation called Khalistan, while security forces kept a wary vigil outside the shrine, highest seat of the Sikh religion, the witnesses said.

Police said tension was high.

Head priest Darshan Singh has rejected administration offers to provide state security at the convention, warning that a police entry into the complex Tuesday would "be interference in the religious affairs of the Sikhs and will not be tolerated."

Tuesday's convention of Sikh saints and politicians, moderates and militants had been called by Mr. Darshan Singh to spell out what he calls a "clear goal" for the Sikhs and end the "aimless struggle" mounted by militants which has seen more than 560 people die in Punjab this year.

The convention aimed at starting what Mr. Darshan Singh calls a "clear new programme" is expected to be stormy with the main militant group warning that nothing short of Khalistan should be the goal of the Sikh community.

Gurjeet Singh, leader of the All India Sikh Students' Federation (AISSF), warned last week that anyone attending the convention and not supporting the idea of a separate Sikh nation would sign their own "death warrant."

The AISSF is the sword arm of the separatist movement and Gurjeet Singh is one of Punjab's most wanted militants with a prize of 100,000 rupees (8,000 U.S. dollars) for his capture dead or alive.

Darshan Singh, a former cantor of Sikh hymns who was appointed head priest in January, has reacted strongly to the militant warnings, saying "No individual or organisation has a right to force his or its views" on the Sangat, or Sikh masses.

Darshan Singh, once the voice of hardcore militants but who has become a moderate, has come out in favour of an autonomous Sikh state within the Indian union.

INDIAN EXPRESS: Pakistan Taking U.S. for Ride

BK041507 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
28 Jul 87 p 6

[Editorial: "The Nuclear Pirates"]

[Text] As has often happened in the past, the discovery of the audacious Pakistani attempt to smuggle out of the US 25 tonnes of special steel required by the enrichment facility at Kahuta has triggered a heated debate in the US on how to deal with Islamabad. Some Congressmen, notably Mr Stephen Solarz and Mr Claiborne Pell, have mounted pressure on the administration to rebuff Pakistan by cutting off military and economic aid. But it is not as if Pakistan's patrons in Washington are silent. US officials, for instance, do not seem to have seen through the palpably ridiculous Pak plea that Mr Arshad Parvez, the Canadian national of Pak origin, who was caught redhanded while trying to export the steel in gross violation of the US law, had not been officially authorised to send this consignment. A Pakistani foreign office spokesman has also come forward with a novel explanation without batting an eyelid. According to him, the debate in the US Congress on Pakistan's nuclear designs was nothing but a "conspiracy" by elements opposed to Pak-US friendship. This is tripe. But Gen. Zia has taken the Americans for a ride so often in recent years to bring his country to the threshold of the nuclear club that he may feel confident of weathering the new revelations again.

Pakistan's scientific talent such as it is has played a minor role in its nuclear advance. It is largely because Pakistan has excelled in international piracy to acquire nuclear knowhow and materials that it is now just two screw turns away from exploding a nuclear device. It is by no means fortuitous that since the US resumption of large-scale military assistance to Pakistan from 1981 it has taken the biggest nuclear strides. Mr David Warren, a US customs official, testified before a Congressional subcommittee the other day that following Parvez's arrest voluminous documents had been seized and these showed that the latter's effort was a part of a worldwide network of clandestine operations. This is only the latest addition to the already existing mass of evidence of a Pakistani plan to develop nuclear weapons. Despite this, a US official says that no firm judgment on fact or legal implications of what has been unearthed can yet be made. No one, as they say, is so blind as he who refuses to see.

An interesting suggestion has emerged from the current discussion on repeated Pakistani transgressions of the US law against nuclear proliferation. It is that Pakistan must be made to agree to refrain from enriching uranium beyond five per cent and thus prove that it is not embarking on a nuclear weapons programme. Gen. Zia is bound to try and kill such moves by playing his old trump card. That is, he will highlight the fact that he has consistently subserved the strategic interests of the US and that he will continue to do so with undiminished ardour. As is well known, Mr Reagan is highly susceptible to such courting. The American critics of Pakistan's nuclear adventurism will have a hard time getting him to make any move against Islamabad.

Commentary Views Armacost Mission to South Asia

BK031203 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1010 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Commentary by PTI correspondent K. Dharmarajan]

[Text] Startling new revelations in the United States in the recent weeks have turned the spotlight once more on Pakistan's nuclear program. As a result, a Reagan emissary is right now in Islamabad for what may be a fresh round of nuclear bargaining. Mr Michael Armacost, the emissary, is no stranger to the subcontinent. The U.S. under secretary of state spent the weekend in talks in Delhi. India's own concern over Islamabad's nuclear ambition needs no reiteration. The complaint is rather that the U.S. has not prevented the Pakistan program despite is legal obligations to do so.

On this occasion, to be fair, it is not India's anxiety that has sent Mr Armacost into Pakistan to seek fresh assurances. The U.S. Congress was incensed by new incident of nuclear piracy that has belied Pakistan's assurances. Clearly no one is deceived by the conspiracy theory advanced by Islamabad to explain away the arrest of a Pakistan-born Canadian named Arshad Parvez last month. Parvez was arrested while attempting to smuggle out of the U.S. 25 tons of special steel required by the enrichment facilities at Kahuta. Within a week the U.S. Justice Department also indicted two Americans and one Hong Kong businessman for illegally exporting nuclear-related equipment to Pakistan. As could only be expected, the incidents in the U.S. heightened the concern in India and gave a new sense of urgency to the talks with Mr Armacost in Delhi.

The talks also covered East-West relations, Afghanistan, disarmament, Fiji, and the Gulf war. Bilaterally, the improving India-U.S. trade and commercial and industrial relations have been a cause for satisfaction to both sides. Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on whom Mr Armacost called, has often aired India's concern over supply of sophisticated U.S. arms to Pakistan. If Pakistan's nuclear program has not been prevented, Mr Gandhi sees just one more reason for it — cold war power interests.

The objective of nuclear nonproliferation has taken a backseat in the face of U.S. strategic interests in the Gulf and pursuit of cold war against the Soviet Union and Kabul. India is legitimately sour that Washigton tends to regionalize the nuclear issue each time Pakistan violates the American nonproliferation laws. To sidetrack the basic issue, Pakistan has been equating itself with India in the matter of nuclear pursuits. It is nobody's case that India's nuclear power stations are weapon oriented. An official in New Delhi was cryptic: No Indian national has been

arrested for pilfering material in Western countries, he remarked.

From all accounts, Mr Armacost's visit to India is unlikely to have dispelled India's doubts over America's Pakistan policy. It is reckoned widely that General Zia has taken on the role of the shah of Iran in the region. If there is threat of war in the Gulf, there is also — in the words of a leading columnist — threat of peace in Afghanistan. Islamabad seems embroiled in American strategic moves in this region, particularly in relations to Central Command, CENTCOM.

Last year Prime Minister Junejo visited CENTCOM's Florida headquarters in the U.S. General Crist, the CENTCOM commander, had visited Pakistan in the past and may do so yet again. All this raises a question mark over how serious will be the ongoing Armacost nuclear negotiations in Islamabad. The orchestrated outcry in Pakistan against aid-suspension moves in the U.S. Congress may not have gone unnoticed by the visiting American official. Many in Islamamad have termed it nuclear blackmail on the part of U.S. political leaders and have issued statements calling on the Zia regime not to submit to American pressure even if it meant losing the aid. But U.S. for its part would want to see some verifiable assurances from Pakistan if only to assuage the U.S. Congress. Indeed, reports from Islamabad say Mr Armacost raised the question of on-site inspection of Pakistani nuclear facilities. The bargain, as has been suggested by analysts, may take the shape of demands for new bases or landing facilities, continued support on Afghanistan, and a role against Iran. In any event, the Armacost mission in Islamabad will be watched with considerable interest everywhere in South Asia.

'Dreaded' Punjab Terrorist Arrested; Killings Noted

BK060324 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The Kapurthala police have arrested a dreaded terrorist, Sucha Singh, carrying an award of 25,000 rupees. He was wanted for a number of terrorist activities including murder.

In Amritsar District, three terrorists forcibly entered the house of sarpanch [village headman] Chandan Singh in Damankote village early this morning, and without recognizing him asked as to where the sarpanch lived.

The sarpanch directed them to the next house. As the terrorists were leaving, the sarpanch took out his licensed weapon and killed one of them on the spot while the other two escaped.

One person was shot dead by terrorists in village Miranpur near Chabbal last night.

Further Reportage on 'Martyrdom' Maneuvers in Gulf

Combat Ability Demonstrated

LD051804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] A Central News Unit correspondent has sent the following dispatch on the continuation of the "Martyrdom" maneuvers:

Continuing the great "Martyrdom" maneuvers in the blue waters of the Persian Gulf and the strategic Strait of Hormuz early this morning, operations involving many speedboats and a seaborne attack on shore were carried out in the general Hormozgan area between Qeshm and Larak Islands and the Strait of Hormuz.

The Central News Unit correspondent of Bandar-e 'Abbas, sent to the "Martyrdom" maneuvers operational theater, reports that selfless elements of the (?Armed Forces) streaked across the waters in speedboats this morning to the operational area. The disciplined and ordered movement of masses of boats, covering a vast expanse of the sea, demonstrated the high state of operational and combat capability of the units participating in the exercises.

Native fishermen, the true protectors of Persian Gulf security, participated in the exercises with a large number of fishing launches. Their launches were decked out with banners of various colors, which added to the impressiveness and greatness of the exercises. The participation of native forces in the exercises shows their support for the defensive movement of the fighters of Islam against acts of aggression by the United States and its associates. It clearly demonstrates the firm resolve of the heroic Iranian nation to support the valiant efforts of the fighters of Islam in safeguarding the strategic Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf waters.

At the end of the parade of speedboats and launches, we observed a demonstration in the operational theater of the inventive means and equipment manufactured by the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the Guards' submarine, the first one built by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC]. This demonstration proves our ability to destroy the enemy's resources.

Following that, aircraft and helicopters of the IRGC Air Force appeared in the operational theater in support of the naval forces. Continuing the amphibious operations of the "Martyrdom" maneuvers, a large number of boats, along with the necessary equipment and facilities, launched mock attacks on land according to plan. In the initial stages artillery batteries stationed in appropriate locations continually shelled targets, enabling the sea-based units to carry out a mass attack. The selfless Mobilization Forces carried out a lightning attack on a hypothetical target, thus successfully completing another part of the "Martyrdom" maneuvers. In these exercises, the forces defending the Persian Gulf demonstrated their combat capability and their ability to withstand any enemy move.

I would add that the "Martyrdom" maneuvers continue in the general Hormozgan area between Qeshm and Larak Islands and the Strait of Hormuz.

Third Stage of Operations

LD061052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The third stage of the great "Martyrdom" maneuvers was successfully completed this morning in the waters of the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and the strategic islands of the region.

The joint staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, announcing that the "Martyrdom" maneuvers will be extended to 2400 hours on Friday, 7 August, warned foreign ships and aircraft not to approach the operational area in the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and the Strait of Hormuz.

The deputy director of the civilian airlines of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced: According to plan, Iranian pilgrims to the house of God will be returned to the Islamic homeland starting Saturday, 8 August, over 16 days.

The number of Sunni pilgrims from various Islamic countries who were martyred at the hand of the agents of Al Sa'ud in the bloody events of Mecca has been announced as being at least 40.

Khamene'i Speaks at 'Id al-Adha Ceremonies

NC060507 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Ceremonies to mark the auspicious 'Id al-Adha were held this morning with the massive participation of various strata of the mourning Iranian ummah throughout our Islamic homeland. The auspicious 'Id al-Adha prayers in Tehran began at 0630 [0300 GMT], with the massive participation of Tehran residents. It was led by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran's Friday imam, at Tehran University.

Amid slogans of "Husayn, Husayn is our slogan, martyrdom is our honor," "O Muhammad, they killed the pilgrims to the house of God," "O President, revenge, revenge," "Cut off the hand of Abu Lahab" [one of the first opponents of Islam and the prophet's relative], "Cut off the hand of Fahd," and "Death to America," the Tehran Friday imam delivered his 'Id al-Adha sermon.

The bitter, calamitous incident that occurred in the house of God has turned our people's celebrations into mourning and brought sadness to their hearts. The imam has stated that he will not celebrate today. Instead of slogans of celebration and happiness, the congregation has shouted: "We mourn today."

Undoubtedly, this sadness will not be limited to the Iranian nation. Despite the wishes of its perpetrators and those who felt joy, it will spread to the whole world. This calamity is a rare incident in our and Islam's history. The savagery that led to the mass martyrdom of a number of pilgrims to the house of God was certainly unprecedented in the history of the hajj.

In continuation of his first sermon on 'Id al-Adha, Hojjat ol-eslam val-Moslemin analyzed the elements and motives behind the Bloody Friday incident in Mecca. He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran has a natural and intrinsic power. It will be very bitter for the arrogant powers that from the great dais of the hajj

used by Islam and our nation, the system of the Islamic revolution and the Iranian nation can be projected to the nations of the world. The hajj is the greatest dais for revolutionary Islam and the Islamic Republic.

Referring to the resistance of the Iranian nation in the face of plots and problems, Mr Khamene'i said: This year's incident, as facts have proven so far, was engineered to prevent the Islamic pilgrimage of the Iranian nation and to prevent chants of "God is great," "Islamic unity," and "Neither East nor West." All those who oppose the expansion of the revolution and who fear the slogan "There is only one God" are partners in this incident. The main engineer is global arrogance, led by America. Reactionaries in the region were overjoyed. They all sympathized with the murderers and congratulated them. They all sympathized with each other in carrying out this plot. However, at God's will, their own plots have backfired on them.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Khamene'i stated: It is true that the Saudi regime and global arrogance sacrificed for no reason a group of oppressed Muslims before the house of God. It is true that they turned our feast of sacrifice into a true feast of sacrifice. These pilgrims were sacrificed for the house of God, the hajj, the Koran, and the slogans "There is only one God," and "God is great." These were the same people who performed their ablutions in the Zamzam spring on the imam's orders. We gave these sacrifices, however, and this incident will become a millstone around the necks of the criminals, weighing them down and destroying them. They know this blood will excite the world. They are now propagandizing and claiming that this incident was a war between Shi'ites and Sunnis. This is a lie! We have solved this problem in our country. Wherever this problem exists, we see the hand of arrogance. In this march there were a number of brothers from other countries who were martyred and wounded and there were those who helped the pilgrims. Of course there is a war; but it is a war between the American perception of Islam and true revolutionary Islam. The war is not between Shi'ites and Sunnis.

At the end of the first sermon, Mr Khamene'i stressed: We do not doubt that the incidents and their repercussions are detrimental to global arrogance and we will undoubtedly fulfill our duty. We do not consider Saudi Arabia the only guilty party in this incident. We consider America a partner in this because America engineered the plot, tailored the politics, and gave assistance. To avenge this blood, revenge will undoubtedly be directed at both the Saudi regime and America.

In the second sermon on 'Id al-Adha, the Tehran Friday imam stated: Continuing their victorious operations begun on the country's western borders 2 nights ago, the fighters of Islam inflicted a heavy and resolute blow to the Zionist enemy last night in another phase of these operations.

Concluding this sermon, Mr Khamene'i prayed for the victory of Islam and the Muslims, and for the victory of the fighters of Islam on the war fronts.

Khamene'i Says Mecca Incident Shows U.S. 'Weakness'

LD051521 Tehran IRNA in English 1458 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday termed Friday catastrophic incident in Mecca as indicating weakness and bewilderment of international arrogance and U.S. set-backs in its fight with the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

Speaking to a large gathering of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) members, the president who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council said the carnage of Muslims in Mecca was brought about with the "collaboration of accomplices of imperialism".

President Khamene'i said that the incident would be detrimental to international arrogance and in the long run would uproot tyrants in Saudi Arabia and outs "lackey Saudi rulers". The president said that the international arrogance committed this crime for demoralising the resistant Iranian people and overshadowing the important hajj message of Imam Khomeyni.

Despite the schemes of imperialism, committed Muslims were moved by the incident and their return to their own countries would in all likelihood create bitter feelings against the perpetrators of the crime.

The president said that the successful operations launched in western front by the IRGC and Basiji (volunteer) forces this week had inflicted heavy damage on the Iraqi troops and forced them to retreat. "The war has only one end and that is a victory for Iran," the head of the Supreme Defence Council said.

He drew a parallel between the bloodshed in Mecca with Iraqi attack on Iranian residential areas, passenger planes and deployment of chemical weapons, adding that all these incidents were due to Iran's powerful stance and confusion of imperialism.

Syrian Foreign Minister Meets With Khamene'i

LD051649 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — Visiting Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday and conveyed to him President Hafiz al-Asad's deep regret over the martyrdom of a large number of pilgrims in Mecca on Friday.

President Khamene'i, thanking his Syrian counterpart for expressing sympathy with the Iranian people, said it is impossible for the Islamic Republic to ignore the Mecca tragedy which he described as an "unprecedented incident" in that holy city.

Khamene'i blamed the U.S. for the brutal carnage of the pilgrims, and said there is no doubt that the Americans in league with the Saudis designed the "horrible slaughter". The plan to massacre pilgrims had been designed in advance, he added. The Saudi police martyred hundreds of defenceless pilgrims, who were peacefully announcing their deliverance from infidels, with fire arms, clubs, stones and suffocating gases, wounding thousands of others.

Pointing to obstacles created by the Saudi regime in transferring the wounded and bodies of martyrs to Iran, the president said "the Riyadh government's inhuman acts are of such magnitude that one of wounded Iranian pilgrims has succumbed to his wounds, attaining martyrdom at Jeddah Airport last night." "The lives of other wounded are in danger," he stated.

Damascus on Meetings, Departure

JN052041 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran — Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i received Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this morning. During the meeting, the foreign minister conveyed a message to the Iranian president from President al-Asad on the regrettable events which occurred in holy Mecca. The meeting was attended by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian ambassador to Syria, and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi also received the Syrian foreign minister. During the meeting, which was attended by the Iranian foreign minister, talks centered on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' left Tehran for Damascus this evening. He was seen off at the airport by 'Ali Akbar Velayati, senior Iranian Foreign Ministry officials, and the Syrian Embassy staff in Tehran.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Condemns Saudi Acts

LD052306 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] In condemning the Saudi rulers' inhumane acts against the pilgrims to the house of God and against members of the Islamic Republic of Iran's missions in Saudi Arabia — all of which were planned by the United States and implemented by the Saudis — the Foreign Ministry spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran has stated:

The United States, angry at the participation of thousands of non-Iranian hajj pilgrims in the disavowal march and in order to halt the influence of the Islamic Revolution among Muslims of other countries, used its hirelings to pump bullets into the innocent and unarmed Muslim pilgrims to the holy house of God.

He added: The Al Sa'ud regime, following the wide-scale massacre of the pilgrims to the holy house of God, which revealed its true anti-Islamic nature to all, continues to apply pressure and annoy Iranian Muslims. Furthermore, it is delaying the process of handing over the bodies of martyrs and the wounded. This has resulted in the martyrdom of a number of the wounded.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: The Saudi forces have thrown a tight cordon around the Iranian Embassy and Consulate-General in Riyadh and Jeddah for several days. They have caused much hardship by threatening to shoot, despite the presence of a number of children inside the embassy premises.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: Of course, expecting that international norms and Vienna conventions be observed by criminals who machinegun defenseless pilgrims to the holy house of God is illogical and out of place. However, if the cordon around the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy and Consulate-General continues, and if restrictions are pursued, the Islamic Republic of Iran will retaliate in kind.

Saudi 'Blockade' Eased

NC060910 Paris AFP in English 0904 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, Aug 6 (AFP) — Saudi security forces Thursday lifted a blockade around the Iranian missions here and in Jeddah, a spokesman for the Iranian Embassy said here. He said both the embassy in Riyadh and the office of the consulate-general in Jeddah had been surrounded for the past 48 hours.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry on Wednesday reported that the diplomatic missions had been surrounded "for several days" and that Saudi security forces were threatening to fire on the occupants.

The spokesman in Riyadh said Saudi forces, "armed with rifles," surrounded the embassy here Tuesday, ordering its occupants, including 10 children and their mothers, to stay indoors. He said employees of the embassy who tried to open the door and leave the building had been threatened by the Saudi security forces.

The clampdown was eased on Thursday and the employees were able to go in and out of the compounds undisturbed by the Saudi policemen that still stood outside.

The blockade was imposed following the violence that broke out during the annual hajj, or pilgrimage, to Mecca last Friday, which left 402 people, including 275 Iranians, dead, according to Saudi accounts.

Television Report Shows Mecca 'Bloodbath' 5 Aug

LD051932 Tehran IRNA in English 1918 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5 Irna — The first few visual shots coming from blood-splattered Mecca were broadcast by Iran television today at 21:15 local time (17:45 GMT). The ghastly spectacle proved beyond doubt the brutal nature of the Saudi regime. Blood-stained pilgrims were seen running in all directions as Saudi helicopters zoomed overhead to the crackling sound of automatic gunfire echoing in the background.

Amid cries of Allaho Akbar (God is the Greatest) fellow pilgrims were seen dragging the bodies of martyrs and the injured whose distorted figures bore a testimony to U.S.-Saudi crimes. Gunshot wounds were clearly visible on bodies battered beyond recognition.

The holy Ka'bah near which the shedding of even an animal's blood is divinely prohibited witnessed a human bloodbath as faithful Muslims were slaughtered by the anti-Islamic Wahhabi clique in Riyadh upon the direct orders of the criminal U.S.

The film showed bold slogans against the enemies of Islam scribbled on Mecca's street walls which were soon turned red by the blood of the guests of God, as men and women of all ages along with the disabled on wheelchairs tried to flee the indiscriminate machinegun fire and the baton charge of the Wahhabi police.

Interpol Official Cited on Examination of Corpse

LD051842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Following the extraction of bullets from the immaculate bodies of the martyrs of the recent Mecca calamity who have been transferred to Tehran, an Interpol official said the following in an interview with our correspondent:

[Begin Interpol official recording] As you see, on the chest of the deceased there is a hole around which there are signs of burns. The bullet entered here. When we first examined the body we were not quite sure that it might be the place where the bullet entered. We took radiographic pictures of the body and saw that a bullet was lodged at the back of the deceased. The physical shape of the bullet proves that it came from a rifle because of its configuration. After extracting the bullet, we saw that our guess was correct. The bullet had been fired from a combat rifle. In order to determine definitely the exact kind of rifle, we must examine the bullet through microscopic equipment at the criminal laboratory.

The fact that the bullet was lodged in the back of the deceased and that it powerfully pierced the body, indicates it must have been fired from a great distance. The trajectory shows that the bullet must have been fired from above, not from a horizontal direction. In other words, the shot came from a high place. Therefore, the person who did the firing must have been stationed above the area and fired from there at the deceased. The distance must, logically, be more than 20-30 meters. [end recording]

Further Reportage on Visit of PRC Commerce Minister

Briefs Musavi on Economic Talks

LD051700 Tehran IRNA in English 1628 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — Visiting Chinese Commerce Minister Liu Yi briefed Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi on progress made in the third joint economic session meet between Iran and China, here today. Liu Yi termed outcome of his talks with Iranian officials as 'positive' in the meeting. Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri and Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari were also present.

In reply, Musavi referred to the historic ties between the two countries and said many grounds exist for expansion of Tehran-Beijing relations, especially in the fields of long-term economic plans and large development projects. The Islamic Republic attaches significant importance to its relations with the People's Republic of China "as constructive and deep ties," Musavi said.

The Chinese minister heading a 13-man delegation arrived here last Thursday to participate in the third Tehran-Beijing economic commission meet.

Talks Termed 'Successful'

LD051912 Tehran IRNA in English 1848 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — Iran and China agreed to exchange annually dlrs. 500 m. worth of goods, half for each side. Iranian and Chinese ministers of commerce termed as successful their understanding reached in the third Tehran-Beijing joint economic session. Both stressed on expansion of the two countries' relations.

The above remarks were announced in the last round of talks between Iranian Minister of Commerce Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari and his visiting Chinese counterpart Liu Yi, here Wednesday.

Abedi-Ja'fari said at the meeting that Iran and China believe that there are grounds for exchange of goods between the two in addition to the present opportunities, and that the volume of exchanges should be increased, to be discussed in future talks between the two countries.

More on the two countries's agreement to exchange dlrs. 500 m. worth of goods, Abedi-Ja'fari said that China will purchase one to 1.5 million tons of crude oil from Iran. China agreed to buy non-oil goods as much as 20 percent of the value of oil purchased by that country, said the Iranian minister.

The two countries also stressed at the third joint commission session on bilateral trading without middlemen, Abedi-Ja'fari said adding that they also agreed to boost technical credit ceiling to 50 percent (from 10 million to 15 million dollars) in a bid to enhance volume of bilateral exchanges.

Elsewhere, in his speech, the Iranian minister said that Iran and China agreed to cooperate in technical and scientific research fields, including manufacture of heavy building machines, electronic industries, thermal power station, promoting sericulture as well as in other agricultural areas.

The Iranian official termed the talks as successful, expressing hope that Irano-Chinese cooperation would further expand in all fields.

In response, the Chinese minister said that this country attaches great importance to its friendship with the Islamic Republic of Iran adding that Tehran-Beijing relations have expanded considerably since the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The talks held in the third joint commission of Iran and China ended successfully on Wednesday, noted Liu Yi adding that the two countries attained positive results in economic, commercial, technical, scientific and agricultural grounds.

Noting that a letter of understanding would be inked between the two countries, the Chinese official expressed hope that Iran and China would achieve further agreements in future in all fields.

The Chinese minister arrived here at the head of a 13-man delegation last Thursday and has so far held talks with Iran's premier, ministers of foreign affairs, of agriculture, of industries, and of oil as well as other Iranian officials.

Commerce Ministers Interviewed

NC060806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] At the end of the third session of the joint Iranian-Chinese committee, the two countries' commerce ministers signed a memorandum of understanding on banking, trade, oil, and industrial and technical cooperation. On the basis of this memorandum, the two countries agreed to exchange $500 million in goods annually, in addition to technical and industrial cooperation.

PRC Commerce Minister Mr Liu Yi, who led a 13-man delegation to Tehran, was interviewed yesterday afternoon before leaving Tehran. Commenting on the outcome of the third session of the joint Iran-PRC committee, he said: This session resulted in a bilateral agreement, which should increase the volume of trade between our countries next year. He noted that the two countries have agreed to cooperate in the economic, technical, and scientific fields. Emphasizing the further expansion of bilateral relations in the future, Liu expressed the hope that these ties will remain firm in view of the friendship between the two nations and governments.

Commerce Minister Mr Abedi-Ja'fari was also interviewed by our correspondent. Stating that the two countries had reached agreements in all fields, he expressed the hope that new areas of expansion in the two countries' relations would be found in view of the potentials of both countries. We invite you to listen to our colleague's interview with the commerce minister.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Abedi-Ja'fari, what was the outcome of the Chinese delegation's visit to Iran, and what impact will it have on the volume of trade between the two countries?

[Abedi-Ja'fari] In view of the strategic positions of both China and the Islamic Republic of Iran in the area, the third session of the two countries' joint committee and the visit by his excellency the PRC commerce minister led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding. We reached agreements in three major areas. These have been noted in the memorandum.

The first area concerns commercial, banking, and oil affairs. In answer to your question I should state that on the basis of this agreement, the volume of trade between the two countries will increase to $500 million, $250 million for each side. The PRC will buy a total of 1 million tonnes of oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran, an amount which can be raised to 1.5 million. The PRC will also buy non-oil products totaling up to 20 percent of the value of oil purchased. Also, a list of the goods that can be traded between the two countries has been prepared. It will form the basis for the memorandum of understanding.

On the whole, his excellency's visit to Iran was carried out in an atmosphere of complete understanding. He held various meetings with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with our dear brother, the respected Prime Minister Mr Musavi; the ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture, and industries; and other brothers with whom he held talks on various subjects.

Regarding banking, in view of the fact that technical credits help boost trade between our countries, it was agreed that 50 percent be added to the existing ceiling, increasing it from $10 million to $15 million.

In addition to commerce, agreements were reached in the fields of research, science, and technology. We agreed to exchange technical information on the construction of the second phase of the Karkheh Dam. The memorandum covers the exchange of technology for the manufacture of heavy construction machinery. We have emphasized continuing contacts between the two sides to establish further cooperation in the electronics industry. Scientific-technical research and the sharing of scientific-technical information on thermal power plants were also stressed. In addition, we concentrated on continuing to cooperate in studies on maize cultivation, crop diseases, quarantine, sericulture, and other similar agricultural subjects.

The third section of the memorandum of understanding concerns industrial and mining cooperation. Various projects were discussed and dozens of projects studied. Some of these are being implemented, while agreement on implementing others has been reached. Various fields concerning the Ministries of Industries and Agriculture and the Mobilization Corps were also discussed in the talks on the industrial-mining fields.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

[Abedi-Ja'fari] You are welcome. [end recording]

Mir-Salim Interviewed on Pakistan, Turkey Visits

NC060647 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Mr Mir-Salim, our president's chief adviser, returned to Tehran last night. He had led a delegation from the President's Office and the Foreign Ministry on a 3-day visit to Pakistan and Turkey and met with high-ranking officials from both countries. In an interview with our correspondent upon his arrival in Tehran, Mr Mir-Salim discussed the reasons for his visits to Pakistan and Turkey.

Referring to the Saudi regime's efforts to downplay the bloody Friday incident in Mecca, as well as its efforts mot to publish the truth and to disseminate fabrications and distorted reports, he said: We realized during this trip that the Saudi officials had sent these reports to all the Islamic countries. Therefore, we tried to explain the oppressions forced on the Iranian Muslims during the hajj ceremony and the march of disavowal of the pagans. We tried to reveal those same issues that the Saudi officials had tried to hide. Mr Mir-Salim added: During this trip President Khamene'i's written messages were handed to the presidents of Pakistan and Turkey, and acting on Prime Minister Musavi's advice, explanations were given to their prime ministers.

The president's chief adviser then referred to the significance of efforts made by the Pakistani and Turkish officials to further question pilgrims from these two Islamic countries in order to clarify the dimensions of this rare incident in [the history of] Islam and to condemn it. He added: The two countries' officials sympathized with the Islamic Republic's nation and leaders, expressing their regret that such a bloody incident took place in holy Mecca during the hajj ceremony. They stated that the enemies of Islam, who want to exacerbate tension in the region, were undoubtedly involved in this incident. Therefore, we should maintain our alertness and carry out the necessary steps to preserve calm so that we can carefully study and establish how this incident took place.

Mr Mir-Salim added:

[Begin recording] We told them that we had drawn some conclusions from Friday's tragedy. The first is that Saudi Arabia lacks the competence to carry out proper security measures for pilgrims. The martyrdom of more than 300 Iranians, as well as the injuries inflicted upon many other people during this tragedy, proved that even though Saudi Arabia had sufficient information and power to ensure the complete safety of the pilgrims during these ceremonies, it upset the security balance by entering the scene to impose disorder and stage a massacre. Therefore, it lacks competence. As a result, we should logically determine how to best ensure the pilgrims' safety in the future.

The second conclusion to be drawn, which was also explained to them, is that Saudi Arabia showed great insensitivity during a very important political-religious ceremony: the march to disavow pagans. The same applies to America, Israel, and all those who are clearly antagonistic toward Islam and who, therefore, understand how significant this ceremony is for us.

Finally, another conclusion we draw from the tragedy is that an arrangement should be made so that one country and its domestic laws can neither prevent the free observation of the hajj pilgrimage nor use any pretext to condemn others for upsetting the security situation, while it propagandizes its Wahhabi beliefs both in holy Medina and in holy Mecca. We proposed to the two countries' officials with whom we met that studies, programs, and policies be considered by Islamic countries. God willing, serious steps should be taken to ensure the safety of the hajj in the future. [end recording]

Musavi, Others Discuss Anti-Profiteering Plan

LD301941 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] In a meeting convened to explain government punishment, the prime minister stressed that officials from administrative organizations must use punishment as an effective tool to spread social justice and support the various strata of the deprived people of society. According to an IRNA report, during this session, which was also attended by the interior and commerce ministers, the deputy prime minister for administrative affairs, governors general, and commerce department officials of the country, Mr Musavi noted:

The main goal of combating profiteering is to ensure the minimum requirements of social justice in relation to the main support for the Islamic revolution in the imposed war. [sentence as heard] He added: If, for various production reasons, war, or other causes, various shortages exist, they should apply to everyone in the nation, not to a specific group.

Mr Musavi added: The punishments set by the government are designed for immediate and sufficient pressure against transgressors. However, if their deeds exceed the levels predicted in the governmental punishment declaration, then the offenders will be dealt with by the judicial system. The prime minister noted that the promise given by the governmental sector to secure and distribute those goods among the people at the appropriate time, complements the battle against profiteering.

In conclusion, he stressed the importance of the responsibility of the administrative branch in fighting profiteering and said: With such powers, no official has the right to remain silent in the face of the misdeeds of a group of oppressors and, under the pretext of lack of powers, not shoulder the burden of responsibility.

Mr Mohtashemi, the interior minister, outlined in his speech the role of the representatives of the government and of managers in the fight against profiteering and hoarding. He stressed the need for decisiveness in implementing the governmental punishment scheme. He added: With the new economic move that was begun to reduce prices, social justice must be established in society in order for the deprived to have justice.

The report adds that the commerce minister, Mr Abedi-Ja'fari, was the third speaker at the session. He noted the achievements of the scheme in the short period since its start and said: So far, not only has the scheme stopped price increases, but it has also caused the prices of some items to fall, particularly fruit and vegetables. He stated that the powers for and popular cooperation in implementing the scheme shows that this is not just a temporary idea; it will last for a long time.

Commerce Minister Views Plan

NC010920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] The plan for combating profiteering and hoarding is a long-term program that will gradually be implemented for all commodities at their various stages of sale. In a televised interview yesterday,Commerce Minister Abedi-Ja'fari said that the government has envisaged a special program for low-income and fixed-income groups, similar to a plan for assistance in kind to workers and employees. He stressed that the plan for combating blackmarketeering at present places controls over those retailers who have direct contact with consumers. He added that this plan is designed to expand its control over sales until all production and import lines, as well as retail and consumer outlets, are affected.

Elsewhere in his interview, the commerce minister said: Although the people have rightfully concluded that the implementation of the plan for halting profiteering is having its desired effect in reducing commodity prices, this trend will have more

positive results only if they continue to cooperate and if the government correctly utilizes the potential at hand and provides the adequate means for carrying out the plan. He added that the government will definitely continue to implement the plan.

Hoarders, Profiteers Arrested

NC290854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Plundered public property worth more than 100 billion rials has been discovered and about 20 cases of robbery and 15 cases of profiteering are being studied.

Our correspondent reports that this was announced by the official in charge of the Tehran Police Department's criminal investigation branch. This official also said: In a crackdown by the police department's anti-profiteering squad, a considerable quantity of staple goods such as powdered milk for infants, cigarettes, matches, toothpaste, and imported luxury items, amounting to millions of tumans, was discovered. These products will be made available to the people when the legal procedures are completed. He added that members of corrupt bands of drug traffickers, thieves, foreign currency counterfeiters, and distributors of alcoholic drinks have been identified. There has been a sweeping campaign of arrests and those responsible will be punished, he said.

Mirzadeh on 'State Punishments' Law

NC301037 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Mr Mirzadeh, deputy prime minister for executive affairs, announced in an interview with our correspondent that the third joint session of governors-general and commercial managers from throughout the country will be held at the Prime Ministry today to explain the law on state punishments. He said: During this meeting, executive officials from all parts of the country will discuss the various punishments for crimes of profiteering, hoarding, foreign exchange-rial transactions, the forceful sale of one product together with another, and the sale and supply of products that fall under the plan to fight high prices, at prices outside the officially set ranges. It will also cover violations concerning ration cards for staple goods, unlicensed units, and offenses by officials in charge of the plan.

Mr Mirzadeh added: The punishments to be imposed in each of the above cases, as well as on other guild violations, have been combined into one law in order to coordinate the implementation of state punishments throughout the country.

Mr Mirzadeh stressed: All distribution and production units in the private, cooperative, and government sectors, all legal persons, and all individuals will be subject to this law. The state punishments are not aimed at any specific group. They include the managers and production and distribution units in the government sector. Heavy punishments will be enforced to prevent waste and excess, and in the event that officials in charge of the plan violate the law.

The deputy prime minister for executive affairs then explained sections of the law on state punishments:: Those managers of state production and distribution units who commit violations will be either temporarily or permanently discharged from duty. In addition to paying compensation for losses incurred, their cases will be sent to the Revolution Court.

He added: In the fight against units involved in profiteering, the first step will be to determine suitable cash fines. These will be imposed according to the severity of the violation and determined by the committee supervising the city, province, or center. For implementation later, the following punishments have been incorporated into the law: cutting of water and electricity supplies or telephone and other government services; cutting quotas; canceling commercial and import licenses; closing down the unit; and, finally, sending the file to the Revolution Court.

Commenting on hoarded items, he said: These products will be confiscated and offered to the people at official rates and through distribution networks. The files of the offenders will be sent to the Revolution Court for rulings on canonical punishment.

On the punishment of people involved in forging and destroying ration cards or issuing ration cards based on false documents, Mr Mirzadeh said: The following punishments have been decided upon: confiscating coupons, imposing fines as compensation for losses incurred, and sending files to the competent courts for the offenders' canonical punishment have been established. If it is determined that government officials are involved, in addition to being discharged from duty and charged to compensate for losses, their files will be sent to the competent legal authorities.

He also stated: The punishments to be imposed on production and distribution units involved in foreign exchange-rial transactions are: the temporary or permanent discharge of the managing director and members of the board of directors; the closure of said unit; the payment of compensation for losses incurred, as determined by the Central Committee of Supervision in the Prime Ministry; and the sending of the case to court.

He stated: Current information shows that a number of state production and distribution units have committed violations in foreign exchange-rial transactions and in distribution, and that elements from various state organizations have cooperated with the private sector in these violations. Once the file against these offenders is formed and state punishments are imposed based on the law, the case will then be sent to the Revolution Court for the necessary formalities.

In conclusion, Mr Mirzadeh mentioned that the people's cooperation is one of the main pillars of the plan to fight high prices. He pointed to the need for the production and distribution units and guilds to work together to control inflation and high prices. He also pointed out the necessity of their active participation in implementing state punishments to protect the deprived strata of society.

Second Convoy of Gulf Defenders Departs

NC060839 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Continuing the dispatch of people's forces to the battlefronts, numerous groups of mobilized forces from Lorestan Province have formed the second convoy of the "Defenders of the Persian Gulf." They departed last night amid a sendoff by residents of Khorramabad. These forces come from the cities and districts of Khorramabad, Borujerd, 'Aligudarz, Dorud, Kuhdasht, Pol-e Dokhtar, Alashtar, Nurabad, Eznab, and other districts of Lorestan Province.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Strategic Heights Captured

LD051444 Tehran IRNA in English 1439 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text]Sardasht Operational Theater, Aug. 5, IRNA — Strategic heights Numbers 2130 and 2379 of 'Dopaza' heights in northeastern Iraq overlooking the town of Qal'at Dizah, were liberated in the Iranian Nasr-7 operations launched in this northwestern theater last night. The attacking Iranian forces have so far inflicted substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi troops in the Nasr-7 operations. 35 others were captured.

Iran's Muslim forces broke through numerous Iraqi booby trapped obstacles and mine fields last night, attacking enemy troops and capturing the two strategic heights.

The Iraqi town of Qal'at Dizah and Dukan Dam in Arbat Province are now within the range of Iranian artillery fire. Pitched battles are still continuing in the war theater.

By capturing the heights, Iranian combatants cut one of the strategic routes used by counterrevolutionary mercenaries.

Hormuz Ship Searches Conducted

LD051526 Tehran IRNA in English 1514 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters conducted seven sorties, heavily bombing Iraqi troop concentration sites and armoured units in Maymak heights this morning, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy forces and returning safely to bases, said a military communique here today.

The 2919th Joint Staff Communique said that a number of Iraqi infantry units and tanks attempted to infiltrate Iranian positions on northern Maymak heights yesterday, but failed and were forced to retreat.

Several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and parts of enemy positions together with some vehicles destroyed in parts of the battlefields in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants Tuesday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces killed or wounded a number of Iraqi soldiers and destroyed over 10 gun emplacements and one vehicle of theirs in parts of the southern fronts Tuesday.

Iraqi forces sustained heavy losses in men and equipment and movement of their armoured and motorized units were checked in Helaleh and Maymak, western fronts, by Iranian artillery fire yesterday.

Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched three cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but found no Iraqi-destined goods aboard them, the communique concluded.

Strategic Heights 'Liberated'

LD051703 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — At least 2,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and fifty enemy vehicles and 10 tanks and armoured personnel carriers destroyed in the Iranian Nasr-7 operations launched in Sardasht operational theater, northwestern fronts, early Tuesday.

According to reports reaching here from Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, two strategic heights Numbers 2185 and 2304 of the 'Boloft' mountain chains in Sardasht theater were liberated in the two pronged operations.

The reports said that two battalions of Brigade 18 and two battalions of Brigade 81 of Iraq's 24th Division were totally destroyed by the attacking Iranian combatants.

2,000 Killed in Nasr-7 Action

LD051826 Tehran IRNA in English 1759 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 5, IRNA — At least 2,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 100 others including 15 officers captured in the Nasr-7 operations launched by Muslim forces of Iran in Sar Dasht operational theater, northwestern fronts, early Wednesday.

Announcing the above, a military communique released by Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters reported today that heights Numbers 2130 and 2379, two strategic peaks of 'Dopaza' heights, and heights Numbers 2304 and 2185 overlooking the northeastern Iraqi town of Qal'at Dizah and Dukan Dam were liberated in the operations.

The communique said that two battalions of Infantry Brigade 18 and two battalions of infantry Brigade 81 of Iraq's 24th Division as well as one commando battalion of the Second Iraqi Corps were totally destroyed in the Nasr-7 assault.

A great amount of Iraqi military equipment, including 50 vehicles and 10 tanks and armoured personnel carriers, were destroyed and many others seized intact by Iran's Muslim combatants, according to the communique.

The Khatem ol-Anbiya communique said Iran's Muslim combatants also smashed an Iraqi counteroffensive to retake the liberated heights today, inflicting additional casualties and losses on enemy troops.

By capturing these strategic heights, the Iranian combatants have brought the Iraqi town of Qal'at Dizah as well as Dukan Dam in Arbat Province within the range of their artillery fire.

Iran's Muslim forces are now fortifying their positions and their heavy artillery fire has paralyzed Iraqi troops.

The Nasr-7 operations code-named Ya Zahra (S.A.) daughter of prophet Mohammad (SAW), were launched in retaliation for the massacre of hundreds of pilgrims by the Saudi regime acting on the direct order of the U.S., the communique concluded.

Khatem ol-Anbiya is the joint headquarters of the Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

Second Stage of 'Nasr-7'

LD060813 Tehran IRNA in English 0806 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants launched the second stage of Nasr-7 operations in northwestern front of Sardasht at 20:00 hours local time (16:30 GMT) Wednesday.

In this stage of the operations, Iraq's 24th Army Division sustained heavy casualties and losses when Iranian combatants liberated new heights 2130 and 2144 of 'Kani Bough' [name as received] chain heights in the region.

Brigade 81 of the 24th Division of the Iraqi Army was totally routed inflicting 2,000 more casualties on enemy troops. This brings to 4,000 the number of enemy casualties in the Nasr-7 operations the first stage of which was launched in the midnight Tuesday.

Tehran radio interrupted its normal programs a few minutes ago (08:00 GMT) to announce the new Iranian operation.

'Western Front' Success Noted

LD060923 Tehran IRNA in English 0857 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Ilam, Aug. 6 IRNA — Iran's Muslim forces broke into enemy positions west of the liberated heights in Maymak, in western front early Wednesday killing and wounding 1,000 more Iraqis. Backed by artillery and heavy gun fire, the Muslim combatants attacked the enemy troops in the region destroying the remainder of Brigades 77 and 705 of the Iraqi Army by 100 percent.

Ten enemy tanks and personnel carriers as well as a number of other vehicles were destroyed and three enemy munitions depots were set afire by the Iranian forces, the smoke of which welled into the air for hours.

Despite a heat of 50 degrees on the Centigrade, the Iranian forces in an 8-hour battle also seized a good amount of enemy hardware intact.

Iraq Loses '2 More Battalions'

LD060951 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0926 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to the latest report we have received from the operational theater. With the complete control and entrenchment of Islam's combatants in the liberated areas of the Qal'at Dizah operational theater, and with effective artillery fire delivered against enemy positions, the Ba'thist army has been prevented from carrying out any major activities or redeployments.

In its latest efforts, the enemy, to compensate for yesterday's defeats, twice this morning attempted to penetrate the Islamic forces' positions. In both instances the enemy, in its abortive efforts, lost two more battalions.

The Difa' al-Watani Battalions were destroyed; they were part of the 24th Iraqi Division's 29th Brigade.

According to the latest reports, the number of aggressive enemy troops killed or wounded since the "Nasr-7" offensive began exceeds 4,000.

May you, the defenders of the land of martyrs, remain proud!

Air Force Attacks Iraqi Positions

LD061055 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6 IRNA — Air Force jet fighters heavily pounded enemy positions in Maymak operational region in the Western fronts at 06:05 and 06:10 hours local time (02:35 and 02:40 GMT) this morning.

According to the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces, all the planes returned to bases safely after inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy troops.

Spokesman on Nuclear Program, Mecca Incident

BK041128 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Aug 87

[Text] Pakistan has reiterated that its uranium enrichment program is exclusively meant for peaceful purposes and it is prepared to accept binding contractual obligations and safeguards in the context of South Asian region. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that Pakistan would not accept any unilateral or discriminatory obligations or constraints with regard to its nuclear program. He said that this was conveyed to the American undersecretary of state for political affairs, Mr Michael Armacost, during his talks with Pakistani leaders in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. The spokesman said Pakistan feels that a unilateral renunciation by one country would not promote the objective of nonproliferation in South Asian region.

About the visit of the adviser to President Khamene'i of Iran, Mir Mostafa Salim, to Pakistan, the spokesman said he brought messages from the president and prime minister of Iran for the president and prime minister of Pakistan about the tragic incident in Mecca-e-Mukarram [holy Mecca] on Friday last. He informed the president and the prime minister about Iran's opinion with regard to the details of the incident.

Replying to a question, the spokesman said Pakistan is in favor of observance of the sanctity of the pilgrimage and that laws of Saudi Arabia must be fully respected. He said all the Muslim countries must intensify their efforts to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in Mecca-e Mukarram.

Opposition Leader Blames Kurram Clashes on U.S.

BK051335 Karachi DAWN in English 1 Aug 87 p 4

[Text] Peshawar, July 31 — Mr Iftkhar Gilani, member of the Pakistan Bar Council and of the Central Executive of Pakistan Peoples Party, has accused the United States of masterminding trouble in Kurram Agency in order to secure large scale exodus of local population to pave the ground for controlling this geopolitically important and sensitive border area unchallenged by elements among the locals who are opposed to this arrangement.

Talking informally to pressmen here on Thursday [30 July] Mr Gilani rejected the reports that these are sectarian riots or ethnic differences coming to a head. he said that the fierce armed clashes which had so far taken a very heavy toll of life, without a parallel in the history of Kurram, had been designed by the CIA to eliminate one way or the other, through massacre and mass exodus, to gain a secured ground to establish American bases in the area with the help of those among the local population and Afghan refugees and members of the resistance, who were ready to assist.

Mr Gilani made a pointed reference to the reports of U.S.-sponsored development of Gwadar and spreading tentacles of American influence in Baluchistan and some parts of the tribal areas of NWFP where a communication network was being established at the cost of the United States.

He was of the view that because of the sheer folly of our rulers Pakistan was slowly but steadily approaching destruction and national disintegration. He was also of the view that though Pakistan was in the best bargaining position as of today due to country's geopolitical importance to the two super powers, the novices at the helm of affairs just did not know how to make best of it within the purview of our national interests.

Mr Gilani went to the extent of advising the rulers of Pakistan to give the Russians a corridor to reach the hotwaters of the Arabian Sea and the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz if worst came to the worst, he said.

Reverting to bloodshed in Kurram Agency, Mr Gilani disclosed that the helicopter carrying the commissioner, Kohat Division, to Parachinar was fired at from the ground and was forced to return to Thall in the settled area.

He said it was surprising that neither the commissioner nor the governor, who is directly responsible for the tribal areas, could visit the affected Kurram Agency since July 23 when the clashes spread. He held the mujahidin leaders responsible for fanning the trouble in the interest and at the instance of the United States.

Newspaper Discusses Suspension of U.S. Aid

BK051105 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 2 Aug 87 p 4

[Editorial: "An Unfortunate Decision"]

[Text] The U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations [Relations] has recommended the full funding of the economic and military assistance to Pakistan in 1988 but with a three-and-a-half-month suspension period in the aid flow. Reports indicate that the decision was taken after a prolonged debate in which some members insisted on punitive measures against Pakistan because of its "nuclear activities". The aid would only be resumed after the U.S. President gives an assurance that Pakistan is fully cooperating with the United States in the case of a Canadian of Pakistani origin who is alleged to have attempted to export a consignment of special steel in violation of U.S. laws.

Whereas it is gratifying that the Congressional Subcommittee has voted to fully fund the Administration's request for aid to Pakistan in fiscal year 1988 and even waived the Symington Amendment, yet the suspension of the aid flow for 105 days is most unfortunate, more so because it has been done on a flimsy pretext. Not only has Pakistan repeatedly said that its nuclear programme is not weapon-oriented but it has also categorically denied that it is in any way connected with or responsible for the action of some individual who is reported to have attempted to make an illegal export. Yet the Subcommittee has thought it fit to suspend the aid for some time. In other words, Pakistan has been punished for a crime which it has not committed. We also can't make out what further assurance is required about Pakistan's "fully cooperating" with the United States on the illegal export issue when the Government has already issued a firm denial, besides warrants of arrest against the person who is said to be the one importing it. It may be noted that the special steel

LTTE 'Officially' Surrenders Weapons 5 Aug

BK051352 Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil 1230 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] The LTTE officially surrendered its weapons at Palaly airport at 1611 [1031 GMT] this afternoon. Major General Harkirat Singh, the commander of the Indian peacekeeping force, read the proclamation issued by President Jayewardene this morning appointing General Seypale Attigalle and Major General Harkirat Singh as chief representatives to receive the arms from the LTTE.

A short while before the formal surrender, the LTTE handed over the following weapons: 3.05 caliber anti-aircraft weapons mounted on trucks, 155-mm mortars, a large quantity of mortar shells, and rocket lauchers. V. Yogi, the leader of the political wing of the LTTE, handed over a revolver to General Sepala Attygalle, the secretary to the Defense Ministry. Speaking at the ceremony, Gen Attiygalle said that from now on all communities will live together in peace and harmony as Sri Lankans. Also at this function [words indistinct]

The Sri Lankan officials attending this function included General Cyril Ranatunge, commander of the Joint Operations Command; Lieutenant General Nali N. Seneviratne, commander of the Army; and Brigadier Gerry Silva, the officer in charge of security forces in the north. More than 100 foreign and domestic journalists were present on the occasion.

Arms Turnover Continues

BK060937 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0931 GMT 6 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 6 (*Lanka Puwath*) — President J.R. Jayewardene has decided in principle to appoint interim administrations for the Northern and Eastern Provinces pending the provincial council elections, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) announced in its news bulletin this afternoon.

Meanwhile, the handing over of arms is continuing in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar and in other areas in the northern and eastern regions.

There is a bustle of activity and community life is fast returning to normal.

People were seen making their purchases in the open market, where vegetable vendors had begun their trade activities. Several shops reopened and most families are returning to their homes. Many prominent citizens said they welcomed the climate of peace that has been re-established in these areas and the opportunity now provided for them to join the main stream of life.

LANKA PUWATH Stipulates Curfew Hours 6 Aug

BK060755 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0746 GMT 6 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 6 (*Lanka Puwath*) — The island-wide curfew was lifted at 0500 hours today, official sources said.

It will be reimposed at 1800 hours (local time) today in the Hambantota, Polonnaruwa and Moneragala Districts.

In the Kandy municipal area the curfew will be reimposed at 2300 hours (local time) in view of the Kandy Esala Perahera [religious festival] and in Kataragama it will be reimposed at 2230 hours (local time) to accommodate the kataragama festival.

In the other areas of Kandy and the rest of the island the curfew will be reimposed at 2100 hours (local time) today.

Finance Minister on 'Vulnerable' Economic Situation

BK041520 Colombo SUN in English 18 Jul 87 p 7

[Editorial: "Warning on Foreign Aid"]

[Text] Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel, who seldom or never minces his words on the uphill tasks facing this country today, has once again drawn our attention to the catastrophic consequences of the continuing ethnic war.

As reported in this newspaper yesterday, the Finance Minister has sounded yet another timely warning on the severe risks involved in letting the crisis in Sri Lanka drag on indefinitely. Western aid donors would be compelled to suspend all assistance to this country if no solution is found quickly to the devastating ethnic conflict, the minister told a press conference on Thursday.

This country has been obviously indulging in the expensive luxury of dragging its feet on the question of bringing about a durable peace and this, as the finance minister warned, could cost us dearly in the future.

The Sri Lankan Aid Group has not failed Sri Lanka thus far, and has been even more generous than expected. Our latest success was the June meeting, where rupees 18.2 billion was negotiated in the face of severe Eelamist pressure.

However, as the finance minister himself has forthrightly pointed out, we cannot afford to be complacent. This would be as good as courting disaster. In the minister's own words: "We must not be swept away by a sense of euphoria". There is growing opposition to the granting of assistance to Sri Lanka from within the Aid Group itself, and there is evidently no guarantee that our luck will be limitless with Western aid donors.

Needless to say, Sri Lanka is in an extremely vulnerable position today. Hard earned, precious money is being siphoned off to the battlefields of the northern and eastern parts of the country to keep the terrorists at bay. Resources that could be easily used to

in question is not something which is used only in the manufacture of nuclear weapons, it has several other peaceful uses as well. It has been rightly observed that whenever the question of aid to Pakistan is taken up in the U.S. some issue or the other crops up from nowhere to throw a spanner in the works. Last time it was an Indian journalist's disclosure that Pakistan has the bomb and now it is some shady deal in which a one time Pakistani is said to be involved. It is therefore no wild conjecture to say that all such startling revelations and disclosures are but a set-up to jeopardise Pakistan's interests. So far as the present case of trying to illegally export special steel to Pakistan is concerned, the fact is that an export licence was duly issued to the individual concerned by the U.S. Department of Commerce and there was nothing shady about the whole thing. It was only later that a dirty trap was laid and the person was accused of bribing the Customs Department, a wild charge at best. There is clearly an active and powerful lobby in the United States which is engaged in damaging the image of Pakistan by hurling accusations at "tactical moments". It is high time we took a serious view of the matter and adopted effective steps to counter such hostile propaganda in the United States by creating a strong lobby for the purpose. It is hoped that the forthcoming talks with the U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Mr Michael Armacost, would help in resolving the issue and clearing all doubts thereby leading to the continuance of mutually supportive relations between Pakistan and the United States.

Paper Welcomes New Indo-Sri Lankan Accord

BK051041 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 31 Jul 87 p 6

[Editorial: "Sri Lanka Peace Accord"]

[Text] Though violent protests have erupted in Sri Lanka at the conclusion of a peace agreement between New Delhi and Colombo, the accord is perhaps the most genuine step taken so far to make strife-torn Sri Lanka a working whole. According to the Colombo-Delhi peace accord, still precariously poised in the face of large-scale protests from Sri Lanka's Sinhalese and Buddhist population, Colombo and New Delhi will cooperate in ensuring the physical safety of all communities in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

In what is perhaps the most constructive area of the pact, India has agreed to use its navy to prevent Tamil militants from carrying out raids in Sri Lanka. The Northern and Eastern Tamil majority provinces will be organised into a single administrative unit with a greater degree of autonomy. Other modalities such as the lifting of emergency in Sri Lanka, the ceasefire between Tamil rebels and the Sri Lankan Army and the return of the latter to its barracks, have been worked out to a strict schedule which will be completed within 72 hours.

In the face of the events of recent months the July accord seems nothing short of a miracle. The development is all the more welcome because one of the parties, India, had in recent months given in repeatedly to its bullying instinct rather than the alternative of a diplomatic exercise. Perhaps, the futility of India's military tactics by which food was air dropped to the Tamil guerrillas finally persuaded India's policy-makers; or else Gandhi's troubles at home forced him to try and reduce the frontiers of tension.

While the new peace accord will be welcomed as a stride towards regional peace and the stability in Sri Lanka itself, the adverse reaction in Sri Lanka indicates that the Sinhalese majority is still suspicious of India which previously aligned itself with the Tamil guerrillas. It is perhaps only by adhering honestly to the letter and spirit of the new accord that Delhi can win the goodwill of the people of Sri Lanka.

prop-up a sagging economy and bring about more material prosperity are being consumed by the raging ethnic fires.

This is exactly how the enemies of Sri Lanka want it. On the one hand, they want to promote widespread domestic poverty and popular discontent by forcing the Sri Lankan Government to continue expensive, unendurable, military operations in the war ravaged areas of the country. On the other hand, they also want to convince the West that all the assistance that is being extended to Sri Lanka is really being used to fuel "genocide against the Tamils".

Judging by what the finance minister stated on Thursday, this strategy of the Eelamists seems to be paying off. If certain sections of the aid givers are getting increasingly impatient with Sri Lanka, it is a sure indication that they are taken in by the terrorists' canards. Given the vibrancy of the Eelamists' disinformation campaign, it won't be long before the West begins to question our credibility.

Therefore, what is required right now is the inner strength, political will and resourcefulness to work towards peace and unity in Sri Lanka. The war must end if this country is to remain in one piece. In this context, a political solution takes pride of place.

It is heartening to learn that the local authorities are trying to revive the peace process, with the assistance of India. New ideas and new formulas are apparently being formulated to bring about a political solution to the crisis. Let's hope for the sake of Sri Lanka that current efforts would succeed.

Indian Paper Reports Colombo Coup Attempt Foiled

BK050947 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 1 Aug 87 p 1

[From S. Rajappa]

[Excerpt] Madras, July 31 — Timely despatch of Indian forces, including the crack 54 Armoured Corps Division, from Secunderabad to Jaffna, and two Leander class frigates of the Indian Navy to Colombo, foiled a planned coup by dissident ministers in the United National Party Government of Mr J. R. Jayewardene in Sri Lanka, with the help of its Armed Forces, according to reliable sources here.

There was no reason, other than the fear of a military coup, for the Indian naval ships to be positioned off the Colombo coast. If its role was only peace-keeping, as envisaged in the agreement, the Palk Strait would have been the logical place for them to be in. [passage omitted]